REC-71 62-104544-691

February 24, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
Redstone, Montana

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]:

Your letter was received on February 17, 1961, and the concern which prompted you to forward information to the FBI is indeed appreciated.

Should you receive further data which you believe would be of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to correspond directly with Mr. Harry G. Maynor, Special Agent in Charge of our Butte Office, located at 400 Thornton Building, Butte, Montana.

Enclosed is material on the general subject of communism which you may wish to read.

MAILED 23
FEB 24 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (5)
17th National Convention & Intro. 3-60 LEB
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
Communist Party, USA
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth

1 - Butte - Enclosures (2)
ATTENTION SAC: Bufiles reflect limited correspondence with Mrs. [redacted]

b6
b7C

SAW:jka

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

63 MAR 6 1961

ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

3-27-86

Labor 8-13-60 v. 42

New Extremist Group Pictures Ike as 'Communist'

Shades of the late Senator Joseph R. McCarthy! When he charged there were numerous "card-carrying Communists" in the State Department, he was a piker compared to a new extreme right wing organization described in a Milwaukee Journal report. It says this group follows a leader who "believes President Eisenhower is a dedicated Communist," and that President Roosevelt "unknowingly," and President Truman "knowingly" were "used by the party."

The report tells the following story: The organization, which is "growing fast" in Wisconsin and some other states, calls itself the John Birch Society, named after an American who allegedly was killed by the Communist Chinese. It was founded by Robert H. W. Welch, Jr., " a wealthy retired candy manufacturer" who lives in Bilmont, Mass., is former vice chairman of the Massachuetts Republican finance committee, and once was a GOP candidate for Lieutenant governor of Massachusetts.

Welch, the report says, is the author of "The Politician" a manuscript which is distributed to promoters of the society, marked for their "confidential" use. In it Welch says of Eisenhower:

"In my opinion, the Communists have one of their own actually in the Presidency, Eisenhower. There is only one possible word to describe his purposes and actions, that word is "treason". The manuscript also tries to hang the red label on Ike's brother Milton and some high government officials.

In Wisconsin, the report continues, the society's members include some prominent indistrialists, one of them William J. Grede, long a right-wing Republican leader in the state. His anti-labor and all-around reactionary activities have been mentioned in LABOR.

Welch also wrote and distributes a "Blue Book" which, by ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR judging by the report, has a Fascist flavor. For example, it says "the men who join the John Birch Society are going to do so because the believe in me and are willing to accept my leadership," Hitler called himself "Der Fuhrer"-The Leader.

Among other things, Welch's Blue Book says: "Democracy is merely a deceptive phrase a weapon of demagoguery and a perennial fraud."

REC-71 62-104401-691

CORRESPONDENCE

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. Hoover: EX 101 12 FEB 28 1961

3/27/61 Dear Mr. Hoover: This past wk. I was shown a photostatic copy of the above, and decided you were the best organization to look into this. (and I asked permission to type it for a copy of my own) There is a John Birch Society in the Redstone - Plentywood (Sheridan County) area. It is causing a lot of stir around here. We don't belong to the society, my husband and I think we can best serve our country by sending these items into you & working on the local level here by keeping our school free of communism by checking our teachers, so we

the school board.

name
ack.
2-24-61
SAW:jpa
2-21-61
2-21-61

are sure they are all on the level. If you wish to have us continue to do this let us know, if not we won't trouble you, because you must get millions of letters.

Also a big question here is, a woman pays $12.00 per yr. and a ~~woman~~ man $24.00 per year. This money we are told gets placed in an envelope and sent to headquarters. Their goal is a million members, that would be close to ~~[illegible]~~ would be an enormous amount of money. A book called the "Blue Book" is given to the members, The "Poletician" which is mentioned must be in circulation among the leaders of the Society, because when you hear them talk, their opinion of Eisenhower is ~~[illegible]~~.

Hope this isn't to much trouble but I feel better having sent it on to you.

Sincerely

Mrs. [redacted]

Redstone, Montana.

b6
b7C

REC'D CORR & TOURS
FEB 13 AM '61

REC-71 62-111101-672

February 23, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Loveland, Colorado

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of February 14, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some material dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

MAILED 10
FEB 23 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President. His book,

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐
57 MAR 3 1961

See next page.
RWE:pjh (3)

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C
2-23-61

NOTE continued:
"The Politician," a vicious attack on Eisenhower, even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists. No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent.

TRUE COPY

Loveland Colo.
Feb. 14-1961.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director F. B. I.
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

PUBLICATION

I am ~~writing~~ concerning the "John Birch Society" and their literature "American Opinion". Editor-Robert Welch, Associate Editors-Hubert Kregeloh, J. B. Matthews, William S. Schlamm & Hans Senholz.

They also give a long list of names of distinguished Americans who give comments and advice helpful in determing the editorial policy, contents and opinions of this magazine.

Some of their articles are startling, as they tell of how Communism is growing in our nation and government.

Are they stating these facts truthfully or are they alarmists?

I know you are a very busy person, but I would appreciate your advice about this. "Thank you"

Very Sincerely,

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Loveland, Colorado.

b6
b7C

REC-71 62-104401-692

25 FEB 28 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

EX-112

nme
ack 2-23-61
Rec/jjh
Ic 2-21-61/jjh

Loveland Colo.
Feb. 14-1961.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director F.B.I.
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing concerning the "John Birch Society" and their literature "American Opinion". Editor Robert Welch, Associate Editors Hubert Kriegeloh, J.B. Matthews, William S. Schlamm & Hans Senholz.

I by also give a long list of names of distinguished Americans who give comments and advice helpful in determining the editorial policy, contents and opinions of this magazine.

Some of their articles are startling, as they tell of how

CORRESPONDENCE

nml
ack 2-23-61/P.L.E. [illegible]

Communism is growing in our nation and government.

Are they stating these facts truthfully or are they alarmists?

I know you are a very busy person, but I would appreciate your advice about this. Thank You

Very Sincerely,

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

[redacted]

Loveland, Colorado.

REC. 101 62-104401-0.3

February 24, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
Box [redacted]
Carmel Valley, California

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter was received on February 17, 1961, and your interest in writing is appreciated.

You may be sure your letter will be made a matter of record in our files.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 31
FEB 24 1961
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization with branches over the various parts of the country. Our field offices have been alerted to watch its activities inasmuch as its head, Robert Welch, indicated at one time that he thought a group having the appearance of a front organization might be effective in attracting true subversives. Welch has, in the past, also attacked President Eisenhower and his Administration in his writings.

SAW:jka
(3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TYPE UNIT ☐

67 MAR 7 1961

3-27-86 Dermacine

b6
b7C

Mrs. [redacted]
Box [redacted]
Carmel Valley, California
February 15, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have been quoting you as having said that communists "are in effect foreign agents on American soil" and now find, in re-reading the Preface to your illuminating Report, COMMUNIST TARGET - YOUTH, that it was Francis Walter who said this.

If this does not represent your opinion, will you correct me?

Some time ago, I wrote you relative to the above mentioned pamphlet and informed you that I am a member of The John Birch Society. Since then, the California Attorney General, Stanley Mosk, has informed me that he would consider this organization "subversive" because it has characterized as members of the Communist conspiracy the last three presidents of the United States.

I do not wish to embarrass you by involving you in any such discussion, but did want to state that we are "subversive" - of Communists and Communism - and that the above statement by Mr. Mosk is rather broad, inasmuch as he does not know who are the members of this Society and individual members are urged to exercise their own discretion and consciences in connection with any of the John Birch Society activities. I, for one, do not so characterize the last three presidents of the United States, although I have raised considerable question about some of their actions--from the coddling of Alger Hiss and the discouragement of Whittaker Chambers's attempts to inform our then president, through the promotion of Harry Dexter White, after he was exposed to the then president as a Communist, and the persecution of Joseph McCarthy when he was trying to expose Communists in our government and services. That is the privilege and the duty of patriots, and unless I am misinformed, is neither against the law or the best interest of our country.

Sincerely yours,

PS--I should like even a short acknowledgment to assure that you received this

b6
b7C

FEB 28 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

[redacted]

100-401-693

February 23, 1961

REC-69 100-104401-694

EX-114

Mr. [redacted]
Post Office Box [redacted]
Lubbock, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of February 15, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 10
FEB 23 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
One Nation's Response To Communism
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage
see NOTE: next page

DCL:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Letter to Mr. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President. His book, "The Politician," a vicious attack on Eisenhower, even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

Feb. 15, 1961

er 1-1

Dear Sir;

I realize that you must be a very busy man and have as much to do as you have time. If you have the opportunity to "cram" one more thing into your schedule, I would appreciate your answering a question for me.

I recently became aware of the part I should play as an American in order to insure the freedom & security of my young son. I want to do what I can to avert comunistic control of the United States. I have been approached and asked to join the John Birch Society. Their literature sounds very convensing & valid, but I am one of those people who have sat back complacently and allowed "the other fellow" to worry about politics. Consequently I don't know too much about this subject and don't want to defeat my purpose by "throwing in" with the wrong organization So my question is: What is your opinion of the John Birch Society and is it the kind of an organization I should be a part of?

I appreciate your giving your time to reading this and would appreciate your answer even more.

Sincerely

b6
b7C

/s/ [redacted]

REC- 69 62-104401 694

EX-114

FEB 28 1961

1 True copy
2/21/61 ed

Ack: 2/23/61
DCL: ed

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
3/27/86 SP/MACMRA

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Feb. 15, 1961

Dear Sir;

I realize that you must be very busy man and have as much to do as you have time. If you have the opportunity to "cram" one more thing into your schedule, I would appreciate your answering a question for me.

I recently became aware of the part I should play as an American in order to insure the freedom & security of my young son. I want to do what I can to arrest communistic control of the United States. I have been approached and asked to join the John Birch Society. Their literature sounds very convincing & valid, but I am one of those people who have sat back complacently and allowed "the other fellow" to worry about politics. Consequently I don't know too much about this subject and don't want to delist my purpose by "throwing in" with the wrong organization

(over)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/30/80 BY Sp/mschmidt

FEB 20 1961

So my question is: What is your opinion of the John Birch Society and is it the kind of an organization I should be a part of?

I appreciate your giving your time to reading this and would appreciate your answer even more.

Sincerely

b6
b7C

RECD DE LOACH
F B I
FEB 24 9 32 AM '61

12 DIRECTOR
RECD DE LOACH
F B I
FEB 20 1 26 PM '61
FEB 20 2 14 PM '61
FEB 20 1 04 PM '61
RECEIVED - MOHR
FBI
RECD-CEGR & TOURS
FBI

REC-94 62-104401-595

February 27, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
New Orleans 18, Louisiana

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter dated February 18, 1961, has been received.

The thought prompting your writing me is appreciated, and I was interested in having the benefit of your observations.

In connection with the matters you mentioned, I would like to point out that it is the responsibility of the FBI to investigate any allegations of subversive activities on the part of any individual in our country. Should the person be an employee of another governmental agency, information developed through our investigation of him is made available immediately to the head of that agency for appropriate action. It is not, however, within the jurisdiction of the FBI to make evaluations in such instances.

If you acquire facts which you believe are indicative of subversive activities, I hope you will not hesitate to contact the representatives of our office located at 1000 Masonic Temple Building, New Orleans 12, Louisiana.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Gram
Ady

1 - New Orleans - Enclosure

51 MAR 6 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

DCL:efr
(4)

3/23/06

TRUE COPY

New Orleans
Feb. 18, 1961

Mr. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation.
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover -

The article by Mr. Charles Stevenson in Reader's Digest for February confirms my fears that the State Dept has been infiltrated by Communists -

I have heard many prominent well informed speakers, some members of our armed forces who have said this - and I am wondering whether our goverment is doing anything about it - You are well aware of the fact that Kruschev has boasted that the United States will be conquered "from within" - Not by attack - and it appears to me this is exactly what is happening - Mr. Kennedy is so bent on building the armed forces to protect us militarily, and this is important, but it is also very important to purge the State Dept. of Communists, if any. Can you give me any assurance whatever that we (the goverment) are alert on that score? - I would appreciate it deeply - for I am just plain frightened -

I am affiliated with several groups who are doing what they can to fight Communism - among them the John Birch Society -

Cordially

REC- 94 62-104401-695

[redacted] 22 FEB 28 1961

(Mrs. [redacted]
P.S. I voted for Nixon!!

b6
b7C

Jack

mml
ack 2-27-61
Del/gjh
Tc 2-24-61/gjh

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/80 SPMacKnice

New Orleans
Feb. 18, 1961

Mr. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover -

The article by Mr. Charles Stevenson in Reader's Digest for February confirms my fears that the State Dept had been infiltrated by Communists -

I have heard many prominent well informed speakers, some members of our armed forces who have said this - and I am wondering whether our goverment is doing anything about it - You are well aware of the fact that Khrushchev has boasted that the United States will be conquered "from within" - not by attack - and

Serialized
Indexed 2-27-61
Mailed
62-2-211-14/18
CORRESPONDENCE

It appears to me this is exactly what is happening — Mr. Kennedy is so bent on building the armed forces to protect us militarily, and this is important, but it is also very important to purge the State Dept. of communists, if any. Can you give me any assurance whatever that we (the goverment) are alert on that score? — I would appreciate it deeply — for I am just plain frightened —

I am affiliated with several groups who are doing what they can to fight Communism — among them the ~~The~~ Birch Society —

Cordially,

[redacted]

(Mrs [redacted])

b6
b7C

P.S. I voted for Nixon!!

0-19 (Rev. 2-13-61)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enter (from stage right) the John Birch Society

LOS ANGELES — Suburban newspaper commentators have been devoting uneasy attention recently to an organization known as the John Birch Society, apparently a well-heeled outfit spawned by the Cold War.

The society's founder is Robert Welch, 71, a retired Boston, Mass., candy manufacturer, who set up the organization Dec. 9, 1958, at Indianapolis, Ind. Neither the date or place seem to be of significance but the society's "cell" method of organizing and the role of its founder seems to have aroused misgivings.

Welch, who is described as the absolute boss of the society, was born in North Carolina, finished the university there, spent two years at Annapolis and another two at Harvard. He's lived in Boston since 1919.

"Democracy is merely a deceptive phrase," Welch proclaimed on one occasion, "a weapon of demagoguery, and a perennial fraud."

AMID WEALTHY

Welch seems to have taken fright at some of the liberal decisions of the U. S. Supreme Court and his "cells" were commanded to wield pens in a letter writing campaign calling for the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Welch also tackled the Eisenhower menace to free enterprise. He thinks Milton Eisenhower, brother of the former president, was a Communist, and it is "his firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy."

That appeared in a 1958 booklet, "The Politician," written by Welch, which seems to have been withdrawn from circulation after being seen by a few leaders of the movement.

Said Bill Sumner, in The Pasadena Independent:

"Locally, and in this area, the Society seems to be attracting men and women of some substance. It would not pay to dismiss them as a group of fanatics and crackpots worthy only of a passing snort."

Besides Pasadena, the society has picked up recruits in Santa Barbara. Significantly, both communities are dominated by the retired-well-to-do.

On Welch's council are such veteran enemies of democratic rights as Dean Clarence Manion, T. Coleman Andrews, former income tax collector; Spruille Braden, former Latin-American "expert" of the U.S. State Department, and Adolph Menjou, unsavory relic of the House Un-Americans' raid on Hollywood.

Recruiting is done at house meetings by means of a 4 hour movie on which Welch appears alone and explains why there must be complete obedience to the leader. That, he says, will keep out Communists and others who might create dissent.

Each cell has its director who in turn consults with a district director monthly who transmits orders from above. Directives also approved in the monthly John Birch Bulletin, edited by Welch.

Letter writing to public officials and to newspapers has been the main activity of the Society but lately its attention has been turned to the PTA, which Welch feels is too much to the left.

The society is named for John Birch, a U. S. Army captain who is supposed to have died in China 10 days after VJ day. Welch blames his death on "Chinese Communists."

5-Correspondence

file 62-104401

The Washington Post and Times Herald
The Washington Daily News
The Evening Star
New York Herald Tribune
New York Journal-American
New York Mirror
New York Daily News
New York Post
The New York Times
The Worker
The New Leader
The Wall Street Journal
Date 2-25-61
People's World P.2

62-104401-A

NOT RECORDED
117 MAR 6 1961

51 MAR 6 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/30/80 BY SP2 MacPhee

REC- 33

EX-114

62-111401-6

February 28, 1961

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Pecos, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of February 17, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6) (Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

SAW:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

63 MAR 7 1961

3/27/86

b6
b7C

Letter to Mr. [redacted]

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
One Nation's Response To Communism
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President. His book, "The Politician," a vicious attack on Eisenhower, even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

Feb. 17, 1961

[redacted]

Pecos, Texas

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

b6
b7C

I'm sure your files reflect an organization named The John Birch Society. It appears to be a patriotic outfit and, if it is, we can help each other fight the cancer known as Communism. As of the present time I know little about them and I'm trying to assure myself that they are not backed by anyone or any other organization with a tendency to lean to the red side of life.

It will be very much appreciated if you will advise me as to whether or not your investigation gives them a clean bill of health.

Yours truly,

Mr [redacted]

mml
Ack: 2/28/61
SAW:lcl

REC- 33

EX-114

62-104101-6962

MAR 2 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 BY [illegible]

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 2/24/61

FROM : SAC, LOUISVILLE (157-New)

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
RACIAL MATTERS

Enclosed are two copies of articles appearing in the 2/19/61 and 2/23/61 issues of the Courier-Journal, a daily newspaper of general circulation published in Louisville, Kentucky, relating to the captioned society.

It is observed the enclosed articles reflect captioned society was started by ROBERT WELCH of Boston, Massachusetts. Information concerning ROBERT WELCH is set forth in SAC Letter 59-13 (F), in which the Bureau requests that any activity of WELCH's coming to the attention of a field office should be brought to the attention of the Bureau.

This Division is conducting no investigation in connection with the captioned matter, but the Bureau will be kept advised of any pertinent data received.

2 - Bureau (Encls 4)
2 - Louisville (157-New)

WLW:mka

(4)

ENCLOSURE

cc filed with encls.

REC-44 62-104401-197

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

FEB 28 1961

EX-113

EX-PROC

50 MAR 8 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 BY

Clergymen Criticize John Birch Society

Radio Panel Calls Group's Spirit, Views 'Distorted,' 'Perverse,' And 'Illogical'

"Distorted," perverse," and "illogical dogmatism" are terms that were used last night by a panel of clergymen to describe the spirit and pronouncements of the John Birch Society.

Members of the WHAS "Moral Side of The News" panel discussed the semisecret organization which was revealed as active in Louisville by a Passing Show article in Sunday's Courier-Journal.

The John Birch Society, named for a deceased Baptist missionary, was started by Robert Welch, Boston, a former candy manufacturer, who believes that America is being sold out to the Communists.

Beliefs Described

Welch believes that "civil rights" is a Communist slogan; that foreign aid was planned by Communists to weaken the American economy; "democracy is merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demogoguery, and a perennial fraud," and "the greatest enemy of man is, and always has been, government."

The Rev. Paul Stauffer, minister of First Christian Church, asked of the Birch Society, "Can democracy and freedom survive in this spirit? These people take the view that theirs is the only side, that everyone who doesn't think as they think is going in the wrong direction. They would limit freedom of thought. Yet truth comes as divergent views meet in the social encounter of the democratic process."

Cites Needs Of People

The Rev. Olof Anderson, Jr., executive secretary of the Louisville Presbytery, said the society "leaves out the responsibility of one individual for another individual and seeks to turn back the clock. It ignores the fact that our world is quite different, it demands a liberal approach to the needs of people."

The Rev. John Loftus, dean of Bellarmine College, said the society is "not a particularly good attack against communism" and that there is "an evil element within such an organization."

Rabbi Jacob J. Gittleman of Congregation Adath Jeshurun said the society followed "a philosophy contrary to the trend of American history" and that its stand against foreign aid was irreligious. "It is the essence of religion not to be satisfied for ourselves while others starve."

To a question about the motives of members of the John Birch Society, Father Loftus said, "There is a kind of sincerity here, and obviously a perverted notion of good, but there has to be a distortion in the personality."

Said Rabbi Gittleman: "They have no faith in their fellow man, in our country, or our people. This is fear instead of faith."

The Courier-Journal Page 1, Sect. 2
Louisville, Kentucky
Editor MISSEL BRINKLEY

The Louisville Times
Louisville Kentucky
Editor

Date 2-23-61

Bufile No.

Louisville File No. 157-60

Title JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
SOCIAL MATTERS

3/27/86 Spracmee

Ultraconservative Anti-Red Society, With 2 Groups, Gains Strength Here

The Courier-Journal page 1, Sect. 4
Louisville, Kentucky
Editor RUSSELL BRINEY

The Louisville Times
Louisville, Kentucky
Editor

Date Feb., 19, 1961

Bufile No.

Louisville File No. 157- (New)

Title JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

RACIAL MATTERS

3/27/86 Jp/Maemice

SEMI-SECRET society whose [illegible] believes America is being sold out to the Communists is finding some prominent adherents in Louisville.

While the John Birch Society shuns publicity, its leaders will talk. But they won't tell who their members are.

The society is the creation of Robert Welch of Boston, who has written, "We are out to get a million members truly dedicated to the things in which we believe."

Here are some of the things which Welch believes:

1. The international Communist conspiracy now reaches "into all of the legislative halls, all of the union labor meetings, a majority of the religious gatherings, and most of the schools *of the whole world.*" (Italics his.)

2. "If and when we can reach the point of turning just the American Government from actively helping the Communist conspiracy everywhere in the world, we shall have won a most important battle in the war ahead."

3. Indian Prime Minister Nehru and Egyptian President Nasser are puppets of the Kremlin.

4. Cuban Premier Fidel Castro is a Communist. (Welch wrote this in 1958 before Castro overthrew Fulgencio Batista.)

5. "Civil rights" is a Communist slogan.

6. Our foreign-aid program was planned by Communists to weaken our economy.

7. Some Protestant ministers preach outright communism.

Says A.M.A. 'Took'

8. "The American Medical Association has now been 'took,' to the extent that we could not count on any direct help there."

9. Hitler was preferable to Stalin because, when they liquidated people, Hitler's conscience bothered him about it, but Stalin's did not. Hitler was immoral, Stalin amoral.

10. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and General George C. Marshall were guilty of "plain unadulterated treason" in getting the United States into World War II.

11. F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover should have been promoted to Attorney General.

12. Ur[illegible] Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold "is one of the most contemptible agents of the Kremlin ever to be supported by the American taxpayers."

13. "Democracy is merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery, and a perennial fraud."

14. "The greatest enemy of man is, and always has been, government."

These are some of Welch's more extreme statements, admittedly ripped out of context. A Louisville member of the John Birch Society commented about one of Welch's assertions, "I think it's probably stated a little blunter than he really means it."

That comment came from S. Rayburn Watkins, executive vice [illegible] well known [illegible] N. Burnett Magruder, executive director of the Louisville Area Council of Churches.

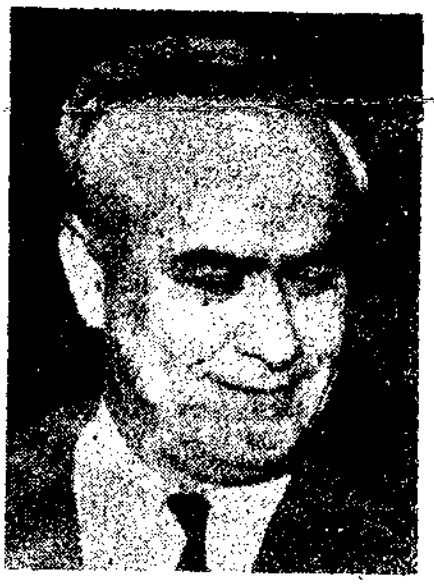
Shirley Palmer-Ball, 30-year-old vice-president and general manager of the Palmer Asbestos & Rubber Company in St. Matthews, heads a John Birch chapter of 20 to 30 members here. He was appointed to his postition around the first of the year, he said.

The leader of another chapter here is architect W. Earle Otis, former chairman of the Jefferson County Municipal Conference. Otis wouldn't say anything about the number of his members, who they are, or when his group was formed.

"We don't seek publicity," Otis said. "In fact, we try to avoid publicity. We have nothing to hide except the names and number of our members."

Welch, the society founder, reminded members in the society's October bulletin that the society is [illegible] planned.

S. Rayburn Watkins
'A little blunter . . .'



Dr. N. Burnett Magruder
'Part of the rising tide . . .'

Shirley Palmer Ball and architect W. Earle [illegible] leaders of two chapters in Louisville, one of which has 20 to 30 members. The thesis is that the United States is rapidly becoming, by Communist design, a socialist state that is giving up its sovereignty to the United Nations.

By ROBERT HERMANN
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

MEMBER HERE

AS WELL

AS WE LAW

"We avoid [illegible] and, methods, purposes and beliefs of the John Birch Society are all set forth in its Blue Book, which anybody can purchase; and in our tape recordings, films, and the speeches of our (regional) co-ordinators and myself, which many thousands now hear every month."

National Council

On the national council of the society are such names as **Spruille Braden**, former assistant secretary of state; **Col. Laurence B. Bunker**, former personal aide to General Douglas MacArthur; **T. Coleman Andrews**, former commissioner of Internal Revenue; former **Dean Clarence Manion** of the Notre Dame Law School; actor **Adolphe Menjou**, and **William J. Grede**, **Cola G. Parker** and **Ernest G. Swigert**, all former presidents of the National Association of Manufacturers.

The late Alfred Kohlberg, militant foe of Red China and communism in general, was [illegible] charter council member. Also on [illegible] James Rauhenberg, a native [illegible] and longtime president of [illegible] Evansville, Ind.

The John Birch Society dates back to a day in 1958 when Robert Welch assembled about a dozen persons from around the country in an Indianapolis hotel and lectured them for the better part of two days on the threats to American freedom and what could be done about them. He offered "dynamic leadership" to meet these threats.

A transcript of his lecture forms the society's "Blue Book," which with the society bulletins and Welch's periodical American Opinion give ample evidence of his conservative views.

Welch's Thesis

Welch's basic thesis is that the United States is rapidly being converted, by Communist design, into a socialist state which is giving up its sovereignty to the United Nations and will soon be ripe for painless merger with the Soviet Union.

Most of the governmental developments of the last 30 years have been part of this design, Welch believes. He would wipe out such things as Social Security, the graduated federal income tax, diplomatic recognition of Soviet Russia, federal budget deficits, inflation, and big government.

Government is intrinsically evil, he believes. If he had his choice between a government made up of [illegible] and 3 million honest [illegible] he would take

AND 3,000,000

W. Earle Otis
'Nothing to hide except . . .'

the 300,000 thieves on the ground that they could do less damage.

The John Birch Society's goal, said Welch, is "less government, more responsibility, and a better world."

Welch considers **Senator Barry Goldwater** of Arizona the best conservative leader on the political scene.

Former Vice-president Nixon, he wrote in 1958, was "one of the ablest, shrewdest, most disingenuous, and slipperiest politicians that ever showed up" and has "never been a leader in connection with any development, or at any stage in his career."

Blames Churches

Welch sees loss of faith in God and man as a cause of our problems, and says one-third of Protestant churches contribute to this loss of faith. The society is named for John Birch, "a young fundamentalist Baptist missionary-preacher from Macon, Ga., who did as much as any other one man, high or low, to win our war and the Chinese war against the Japanese in China, (and) was murdered by the Chinese Communists at the first opportunity after the war because of the powerful resistance he would have been able to inspire against them."

Welch is a North Carolina native who became a Massachusetts candy-manufacturing executive, and in 1957 gave up most of his regular work to devote full time to the anti-Communist fight.

Welch considers himself an expert at spotting secret Communists. He points out that his conclusions many times have tallied with those of J[illegible] former chief investigator for [illegible] tor Joseph A. McCarthy.

LATE SENA-

300,000 THIEVES

Here in Louisville, Shirley Palmer-Ball and W. Earle Otis, chapter heads, deny that the society is a "hate group." They say it steers clear of racial and religious controversies. It is, said Palmer-Ball, a sort of "middle-of-the-road right-wing group."

Otis said he didn't foresee any exposures of secret Communists in Louisville.

While every known Louisville member insisted on his right to disagree with Welch on details, each of them expressed approval of his general approach.

Welch makes clear in the Blue Book that there is little or no room for dissent in the society. He says:

"We are not going to be in the position of having the society's work weakened by raging debates. We are not going to have factions developing on the two-sides-to-every question theme. Those members who cease to feel the necessary degree of loyalty can either resign or will be put out before they build up any splintering following of their own inside the Society. . . . Whenever differences of opinion become translated into a lack of loyal support, we shall have short cuts for eliminating both without going through any congress of so-called democratic processes."

Shirley Palmer-Ball
'Not a hate group'

Chapter leaders are appointed from headquarters, not elected. Chapters are supposed to have two meetings a month, to one of which visitors are invited.

Rayburn Watkins calls the society "more or less a conservative discussion and action group." The "action" apparently consists mostly of writing letters to congressmen and newspapers.

Watkins said he thinks Welch is absolutely right about the extent of Communism infiltration. He believes people in all walks of life—and in high places, too—are doing what the Communists want done without being aware [illegible]

He favors [illegible] of the federal income tax or [illegible] graduated [illegible]. getting rid of the

Less Articulate

Palmer-Ball, a native Louisville [illegible] the youngest of seven brothers, was less articulate than Watkins about his political beliefs. To some questions he replied, "I don't know as much about that as I should."

He said he got interested in the John Birch Society through his brother-in-law in Nashville and was appointed a chapter leader about the first of the year. The chapter meets on his call.

Otis, the other known chapter leader here, said, "I am in sympathy with the aims and purposes of the society and I think it's a very necessary and a very timely thing."

Hate, said the veteran architect, "has no place in our organization at all. We're not out to hate anybody."

He defined his goals as "constitutional government and decentralization of power and authority. One of our primary aims is less government."

Dr. Magruder stirred a vigorous controversy here last March with a statement, made during an interview, that the Protestant clergy is infected with Marxist thinking. So he preferred to answer questions about the John Birch Society in writing.

"The John Birch Society," he wrote, "is part of the rising tide of American and Christian reaction to the Communist menace and is part of a movement which will eventually attract support from every segment of the American people."

EVERY SEGMENT people.

REC-108 62-104401

February 28, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Cody, Wyoming

b6
b7C

3/27/86 Spmacmile

Dear Mrs. [redacted]:

Your letter, with enclosure, was received on February 20, 1961, and your interest in writing is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the FBI, as strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I am sorry I cannot be of aid to you, and I hope you will not infer either that our files do or do not contain information relative to the organization or individual you mentioned.

This Bureau does not issue a list such as you described; however, you can obtain a list of organizations which have been cited by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450 by writing to the Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C. You may also be interested in a booklet entitled "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications." This booklet was prepared by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and although it is currently out of print, you may be able to obtain copies from your local library. Enclosed is material on the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (5)
Listed next page

(SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE)

SAW:jka (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

63 MAR 7 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C 2-28-61

NOTE: Bufiles reflect nothing derogatory regarding correspondent and no prior correspondence. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anti-communist organization with branches over the various parts of the country. Our field offices have been alerted to watch its activities inasmuch as its head, Robert Welch, indicated at one time that he thought a group having the appearance of a front organization might be effective in attracting true subversives. Welch has, in the past, also attacked former President Eisenhower and his Administration in his writings.

Enclosures (5)
17th National Convention & Intro. 3-60 LEB
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
Communist Party, USA
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C
Cody, Wyoming
February 15, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the application blank for membership in an organization which, to us, sounds like one which could accomplish some concerted gains against Communism. However, we are aware that all that glitters is not gold, and we might someday find that we had misjudged. Will you then, please send us any information you may have concerning this John Birch Society or its founder, Mr. Robert Welch.

We would also appreciate having a list of Communist front organizations and publications, or the information on where we could find them in our immediate vicinity.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

REC 108

62-104401-698

12 MAR 2 1961

ENCLOSURE

nml
ack 2-21-61
SAW: jkas
Ltr-2-24-61

3/27/86

[redacted]

Cody, Wyoming
February 15, 1961

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the application blank for membership in an organization which, to us, sounds like one which could accomplish some concerted gains against Communism. However, we are aware that all that glitters is not gold, and we might some-day find that we had mis-judged. Will you then, please send us ~~any information~~ you may have concerning this John Birch Society or its founder, Mr. Robert Welch.

CORRESPONDENCE

[illegible] SAW:[illegible] 12-2-21-61

We would also appreciate having a list of Communist front organizations and publications, or the information on where we could find them in our immediate vicinity.

Yours very truly,

Mrs. [redacted]

b6
b7C

Application For Membership

_____, 19

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
Belmont 78, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

This is my application for membership in the _____ Chapter of THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, for one year from this date, and for automatic renewal each year thereafter, unless I resign in writing. I understand the dues schedule printed on the back of this sheet, as applicable to myself.

If my application is accepted, I agree that my membership may be revoked at anytime, by a duly appointed officer of the Society, without the reason being stated, on refund of the pro rata part of my dues paid in advance.

Sincerely,

(Name) _____

(Address) _____

_____

Date _____

Application Approved By _____

Dues Received _____

Title _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 BY SPMACMICR

REC-108

March 1, 1961

62-104401-699

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Powell, Wyoming

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

The letter of February 20, 1961, from you and your husband has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

see NOTE next page

SAW:lel (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

51 MAR 7 1961

RECORDED - 42

FBI READING ROOM
MAR 1 4 44 PM '61

Letter to Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President. His book, "The Politician," a vicious attack on Eisenhower, even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

Powell Wyoming
Feb. 20 1961

J.Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir;

Some people here, interested in Anti-Communist movement are organizing a "John Birch Society", can you tell us if this society is free of Communist OR Facist infiltration? And can you say, were you a private citizen, would you be interested in this movement?

Sincerely Yours

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Mr and Mrs [redacted]
Powell, Wyoming

[redacted]

REC- 108

62-104401-699

3-2

FEB 23 1961

Ack: 3/1/61
SAW:lce

mml

CORRESPONDENCE

FEB 23 1961

35

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/29/86 Spanamie

REC-108 62-104401-700

March 1, 1961

Honorable F. M. Keener
Judge
Sherman County
Stratford, Texas

3/27/86 Spinoemice

My dear Judge:

Your letter of February 20, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

51 MAR 7 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

see NOTE next page

Letter to Honorable F. M. Keener

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President. His book, "The Politician," a vicious attack on Eisenhower, even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

F. M. KEENER
COUNTY JUDGE AND EX-OFFICIO SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS
SHERMAN COUNTY

STRATFORD, TEXAS

February 20, 1961

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I. Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have had several requests for information on the John Birch Society which is being organized in this county, and we would like to know if there could be any connection with the Communist Front in this Country.

If you can not send this to me, please let me know how the request should be made.

I would appreciate any information you might be able to give me on this matter.

Thanking you, I am

Yours truly,

F. M. Keener

F. M. Keener
County Judge

mt

FEB 23 1961

REC-108
62-104401-700
3-2
17 ~~FEB 23~~ 1961

ack: 3/1/61
SAW: ecl

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/06

CORRESPONDENCE

62-104101-701

March 1, 1961

EX 109

Miss [redacted]
[redacted]
Midland, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Miss [redacted]:

Your letter of February 21, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 31
MAR - 1 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6) (Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

RWE:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

51 MAR 8 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Letter to Miss [redacted] b6 b7C

Enclosures
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
One Nation's Response To Communism
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President. His book, "The Politician," a vicious attack on Eisenhower, even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

b6
b7C

[redacted]
Midland, Texas
February 21, 1961

Dear Sir,

During the past year I have become alarmed about communism in this country. I have read all available literature I could find. Loving my country I want to do something about it.

Recently I have become interested in the John Birch Society. It is headed by Robert Welch. I believe what they say they are and in what they are doing.

But, because I am human and can be misled, I would like to know your opinion of this organization. Since in the past the communist have had front organizations which were called anti-communist organizations, I just want to be sure I'm working on the right side.

I hope you can tell me if I am right in working for this organization.

Also, I would appreciate any advise on anything that I might be doing in fighting Communism.

Very sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

1 True copy
2/28/61 lcl

ack: 3/1/61
RWE: lcl

nml

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 [illegible]

[redacted] b6 b7c

Midland, Texas
February 21, 1961

Dear Sir,

During the past year I have become alarmed about communism in this country. I have read all available literature I could find. Loving my country I want to do something about it.

Recently I have become interested in the John Birch Society. It is headed by Robert Welch. I believe what they say they are and in what they are doing.

But, because I am human and can be misled, I would like to know your opinion of this organization. Since in the past the communist have had front organizations which were called anti-communist organizations, I just want to be sure I'm working on the right side.

I hope you can tell me. I am

Wrote for this copy

FEB 23 1961

35

63-104401-701

EX 109 REC-31

FEB 23 1961

INDEXED

right in working for this organizat

Also, I would appreciate any advise on anything that I might be doing in fighting Communism.

Very sincerely,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

FEB 23 3 16 PM '61
FBI
REC'D-CORR & TOURS

REC- 91 62-104401-702

March 2, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Amarillo, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of February 20, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate your comments about my book and the work of this Bureau.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

MAILED 27
MAR - 2 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

see NOTE next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

62 MAR 8 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

SAW:lcl* (3)

Letter to Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

[redacted]
Amarillo, Texas
February 20, 1961

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The threat of Communism to our country has just recently been brought to the attention of my husband and I. We were shocked out complacency, and in an honest effort to do something "quick" we have joined the John Birch Society. Now petitions are circulating through the city saying that Mr. Welch is a communist and that the John Birch Society is a communist front.

To date, there has been nothing that would lead my husband and I to believe that there is anything about the John Birch Society that is anyway connected with communism. Since we know we can depend on you above all others, please direct us as to whether we should continue to channel our efforts to fight this menace into the John Birch Society.

I realize that you are far to busy with much more weighty matters, but I do hope that you can find time to answer this since we know your judgement would be correct.

Thank you for your book "Masters of Deciet" plus all of the protection that your organization affords us.

Very truly yours,

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 BY Spmacpra

Mrs [redacted]

Ack: 3/2/61
SAW: [illegible]

REC- 91 62-104401-702

FX 104

12 MAR 3 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

62-104401-703

REC- 35

EX-103

March 1, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Beaumont, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of February 20, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 3
MAR 1 - 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6) (Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

SAW:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM [redacted] TELETYPE UNIT [redacted]

50 MAR 9 1961

Letter to Mrs [redacted] b6 b7C

Enclosures
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
One Nation's Response To Communism
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President. His book, "The Politician," a vicious attack on Eisenhower, even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

Bufiles reflect nothing derogatory regarding Slayton or Webb and Knapp Corporation. Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

February 20, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I would like to know if you have any information concerning any communistic tendencies or affiliations of the following persons and organizations:

1. William L. Slayton, former Vice President of Webb & Knapp Corporation.
2. Webb & Knapp Corporation.
3. Robert Welch, President of Welch Candy Company.
4. The John Birch Society.

This information, if not confidential, would be of great help to me. If the information is confidential, I would appreciate some indication from you as to where I could obtain the information I am seeking.

REC- 35 62-104401-703

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

25 MAR 3 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Beaumont, Texas

EX-108

Ack: 3/1/61
SAW: ecl

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-9 (62)-104401-704

March 1, 1961

Mr. Don R. Wark
Route 2
Stevensville, Montana

3/27/86 Spinacenia

Dear Mr. Wark:

Your letter postmarked February 20, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 3
MAR 1 - 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

See NOTE next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RWE:lcl (3)

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President. His book, "The Politician," a vicious attack on Eisenhower, even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

Stevensville, Mont.
Feb 18, 1960

J. Edgar Hoover
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

3/27/86 Spmacpne

We are upset. Here in our community we have several John Birch Society Study Groups. They have aroused, and frightened people here as to the "near future" take over of the Communist Party of our country. We have read their material and stacks of Congressional Reports and other data as to the Communist danger at hand. I have read "Masters of Deceit and I know that you know we are indeed in danger of a Communist take over. My question concerns the John Birch Society and whether they are doing their job in a rational manner. This Society anticipates that 1961 is our last year of freedom. That in 1964 we will have no choice in electing a president.

Many here are withdrawing money from circulation and putting in supplies for an underground unit to fight when the Communists take us over. They are forming their own party of "Conservatives." Many of their ideas we agree with, others we are confused aobut. All of their co-ordinators as they are called travel here from California and speak at these study groups. I am wondering if this Society is worth my support and my money to help its developement. I can only turn to you for advice. The Un-American Activities in Washington send us no return mail as to any of the fore going questions of mine. I am a member of the American Legion Post 94 here at Stevensville and as you know we Legion members are very concerned and dedicated to our country.

Mr. Hoover in desperation we ask you, "Is the John Birch Society doing a good job in fighting Communist influence in the United States?

REC-9 62-104401-704

I want to stop the spread of Reds in our country and will do any thing to assist others who are doing the same.

MAR 3 1961

I place great faith in your answer to these questions and I have faith that my letter will recieve an answer - many of my letters have never been answered that were written to other sources.

CORRESPONDENCE

I await your reply.

Yours, for a free America

Montana
Don R. Wark R R 2 Stevensville

1 true copy 2/28/61 Ec

Ack: 3/1/61 RWE:ec

Stevensville, Mont.
Feb 18, 1960

J. Edgar Hoover
Washington D.C.

3/27/86 Spmacpmce

Dear Sir:

We are upset. Here in our community we have several John Birch Society Study Groups. They have aroused, and frightened people here as to the "near future" take over of the Communist Party of our country. We have read their material and stacks of Congressional Reports and other data as to the Communist danger at hand. I have read "Masters of Deceit" and I know that you know we are indeed in danger of a Communist take over. My question concerns the John Birch Society and whether they are doing their job in a rational manner. This Society anticipates that 1961 is our last year of freedom. That in 1964 we will have no choice in electing a president.

Many here are withdrawing money

Ack 3-1-61
RWE:lee

from circulation and putting in supplies for an underground unit to fight when the Communists take us over. They are forming their own party of "Conservatives". Many of their ideas we agree with, others we are confused about. All of their co-ordinators as they are called travel here from California and speak at these study groups. I am wondering if this Society is worth my support and my money to help its developement. I can only turn to you for advice - the Un-American Activities in Washington send us no return mail as to any of the foregoing questions of mine. I am a member of the American Legion Post 94 here at Steubenville and as you know we Legion members are very concerned and dedicated to our country.

Mr. Hoover in desperation we ask you, "Is The John Birch Society doing a good job in fighting Communist influence in the United States?"

I want to stop the spread of Reds in our country and will do any thing to assist others who are doing the same.

I place great faith in your answer to these questions and I have faith that my letter will receive an answer - many of my letters have never been answered that were written to other sources.

I await your reply.

Yours for a free America

1. Mr. Glen R. Wark
2. ~~R R 2~~ Route
3. Stevensville,
Montana

62-104401-725

REC-4

March 1, 1961

Miss [redacted]

[redacted]

Pineville, Louisiana

b6
b7c

Dear Miss [redacted]:

Your letter was received on February 23, 1961, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 31
MAR - 1 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Illusion and Democratic Reality
One Nation's Response To Communism
Communist Target--Youth
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Expose of Soviet Espionage

see NOTE next page

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Sandy

52 MAR 8 1961

SAW:lcl* (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Letter to Miss [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President. His book, "The Politician," a vicious attack on Eisenhower, even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

Feb. 19, 1961

Director.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir.

Would you please send me any information you have concerning the John Birch Society founded in Indianapolis in December, 1958. The founder and head of this organization is Robert Welch.

I am seriously considering joining this group, but would like to know more about it.

Sincerely,

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Prairieville, Louisiana

nmd
ack 3-1-61
Saw, bd
Ltr 2-27-61

CORRESPONDENCE
Form 13

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-22-96 BY SP[illegible]

TRUE COPY

Feb. 19, 1961

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir.

Would you please send me any information you have concerning the John Birch Society founded in Indianapolis in December, 1958? The founder and head of this organization is Robert Welch.

I am seriously considering joing this group, but would like to know more about it.

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]
[redacted]
Pineville, Louisiana

b6
b7C

1 true copy
2/28/61 lcl

62-104401-705

REC 4

16 MAR 3 1961

Ack: 3-1-61
SAW: lcl

mml

8 Dcm/Stw

[redacted]
3-27-86

REC-9 62-104401-706

February 28, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
Box [redacted]
Stratford, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]:

Your letter of February 20, 1961, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to write to me.

Although I would like to be of service to you concerning the organization you mentioned, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Your grave concern over communism is understandable, and your desire to learn methods of opposing it is most reassuring. I strongly believe that the most effective way to combat this conspiracy is to become fully informed concerning it. A thorough knowledge of the nature and objectives of communism will enable our people to detect it as it endeavors to make inroads in every segment of our American life.

Your public library probably has a wide range of material on communism available for your use, and you may desire to refer to my book, "Masters of Deceit," which is a basic text on this subject. I am enclosing some other literature which may also be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (6)

MAILED 31
FEB 28 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

51 MAR 8 1961

(3) MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐ NOTE AND ENCLOSURES NEXT PAGE.

Enclosures
17th National Convention CP USA, & March 60 LEB Intro.
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion
10-18-60 & 10-3-60 Director's Speeches
Communist Target--Youth
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information concerning correspondent.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

b6
b7C

Box [redacted]
Stratford, Texas
February 20, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Chief
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am a housewife and part-time secretary on the great plains of the Southwest. For some time I, along with many other Americans out here have bcome increasingly aware of, and increasingly concerned about, the menace of Communism in the United States. However being an ordinary citizen, I did not know what I could do to try and help stem this tide of Communism.

Recently I attended a film about the "John Birch Society", thinking that maybe this might be the answer. There were several things about the meeting that I could not "go along with", so I decided that I would write you and try to find the answers to some of my questions. I know that you are a busy man, but I hope that you will find time to answer the following questions for me;

1. What is your opinion of the "John Birch Society"?

2. What can an ordinary citizen, like me and other interested people, do to help combat Communism in the United States?

I would certainly appreciate an early answer to these questions, along with any suggestions you might have.

b6
b7C

Very truly yours,

Mrs. [redacted]

Mrs. [redacted]
Box [redacted]
Stratford, Texas

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-22-86 BY SP2 macpme

REC-9 62-104401-206535

25 MAR 3 1961

EX-112

FEB 23 1961

REC- 82

March 2, 1961

EX 104

Mrs. [redacted]

Dillon, Montana

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

3/27/86 Spinoemre

Your letter of February 17 has been received. The interest which prompted you to write is appreciated, and I do want to express my thanks for your favorable remarks concerning "Masters of Deceit."

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you, and I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some material dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (6)

One Nation's Response to Communism
17th National Convention, CP USA & March 60 LEB Intro.
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
10-18-60 Director's Speech
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth

CJH:jpr
(3)

NOTE: Next page.

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

57 MAR 8 1961

MAR 9 1 08 PM '61
READING ROOM

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the organization might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch critized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

Confidential

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Dillon, Montana

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

February 17, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have read with great interest your book entitled "Masters of Deceit" and feel it of the utmost importance to fight Communism.

Recently an organizer for the John Birch Society visited our small community and showed us a most forceful anti-Communist film narrated by Mr. Robert Welch. Since the Society apparently offers a worthwhile study program, I joined. As yet no meetings have been called.

For personal reasons, I cannot afford to become involved in anything that could become political or discriminatory in nature. I would therefore sincerely appreciate your over-all appraisal of this group in action.

b6
b7C

Very truly yours,

[redacted]

INFORMATION CONTAINED
IN IS UNCLASSIFIED
3/22/86 BY p/macmre

PS: By political I mean Republican vs Democrat, or vice-versa.

EX 104

REC- 82 62-104401-707

20 FEB 27 1961

FEB 27 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-110

62-104401-708

March 1, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Thomasville, Georgia

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter dated February 20, 1961, and enclosure have been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the functions and responsibilities of the FBI as a Federal investigative agency do not extend to furnishing evaluations or drawing conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing material available for general distribution by this Bureau on the subject of communism.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 30
MAR 1 - 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (8)
Self-addressed, stamped envelope forwarded by correspondent
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Series from Christianity Today
Director's Speech 10-18-60 Communist Target--Youth
Press Release 12-22-60 Expose of Soviet Espionage
NOTE: Correspondent enclosed a stamped, self-addressed envelope too small to utilize in reply and currently being returned.

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W. C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

62 MAR 8 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

DCL:mb (3)

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

NOTE (continued) The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization with branches over the various parts of the country. Our field offices have been alerted to watch its activities inasmuch as its head, Robert Welch, indicated at one time that he thought a group having the appearance of a front organization might be effective in attracting true subversives. Welch has bitterly attacked the Eisenhower Administration in the past in connection with his writings.

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Thomasville, Ga.

b6
b7C

February 20, 1961

Exp.

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington. D. C.

John Birch Society

Dear Sir:

I am writing to ask you if you will give me your opinion of the John Birch Society, which is becoming quite active in its work against Communism in this section. I know very little about it and should like to get some authentic information as to its standing and activities. Is it really anti-Communist and is it really making any progress in its so-called fight against Communism? Is there likely to be any danger to its members?

I shall greatly appreciate the favor if you will give me any information that you can about this organization.

Sincerely,

Mrs. [redacted]

Mrs. [redacted]

Thomasville, Ga.

62-104401-708

REC-110

3-2

6 ~~FEB 23~~ 1961

b6
b7C

FEB 23 1961

35

mml
ack 3-7-61
del/mb

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/22/10 BY [illegible]

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-65 62-104401-709

March 2, 1961

EX 109

b6
b7C

Miss [redacted]

Rochester 17, New York

B. APPROX. 1944

Dear Miss [redacted]

Your letter, with enclosure, postmarked February 21, 1961, has been received. I appreciate your kind remarks and the interest which prompted you to write.

I was very glad to have the benefit of your observations and comments. Should you receive further information which you believe would be of interest to the FBI, please feel free to contact Mr. John E. Edwards, Special Agent in Charge of our Buffalo Office, located at 400 U. S. Court House Building, Buffalo 2, New York. I would like to point out that our investigative jurisdiction does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope you will not infer either that our files do or do not contain information regarding this group you mentioned.

I am returning the material you forwarded since you indicated it does not belong to you, together with reprints on the general subject of communism which you may wish to read.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 20
MAR 2 - 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)

50 MAR 8 1961

1 - Buffalo - Enclosures (2)

ATTENTION SAC: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Information regarding the John Birch Society can be found in SAC letter 60-5.

3-1-60 LEB Introduction
Struggle On A New Plane
Expose of Soviet Espionage
SAW:mem (4)

Communist Party, USA
God and Country or Communism?
Correspondent's Enclosure
SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Bishop
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

NOTE: The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization with branches over the various parts of the country. Our field offices have been alerted to watch its activities inasmuch as its head, Robert Welch, indicated at one time that he thought a group having the appearance of a front organization might be effective in attracting true subversives. Welch has, in the past, also attacked former President Eisenhower and his Administration in his writings.

TRUE COPY

Miss [redacted]

[redacted]

Rochester 17, N. Y.

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

3/27/84 - Spmacpme

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Our family dentist and friend has become terribly enthused about a certain anti-communist organization in our city. The John Birch Society, named after a soldier who was killed in World War II, seems to be made up of people who are so afraid of communism that they can't think rationally. They do not publicize their name, suspiciously enough, and distribute disturbing literature. In their efforts to combat communism, this society has attacked everyone from Mrs. Roosevelt to Christian Herter and are encouraging the impeachment of Earl Warren! I'm positive that our dentist, who has been avidly attempting to encourage my parents to join, is an innocent person who believes he is devoting his time to a worthwhile organization. The real reason my family and I are interested is that we fear that the communists themselves are behind this.

Mr. Hoover, I am seventeen years old, and I have grown tremendously interested in foreign policy and the strengthening of American prestige abroad. As a young person, perhaps I am inclined to be excitable and jump to conclusions. I realize that there must be a great number of communists in the United States but I do not believe that as many of our public servants could be aiding Russia as this group is intimating. Having read some of their literature, I feel that someone is behind this organization that is trying to create fear and panic in our country to prevent organized and rational action. I have taken one of the articles we have been given to send to you. The article by the University of Illinois professor, if there is such a person, does not belong to me. Please read it and if you feel that the John Birch Society deserves any degree of attention from your organization, please get in touch with me. My parents feel that this society is dangerous but they weren't sure what to do about it. If you are aware of the existence of this group or if you feel that they are merely exercising their right of freedom of speech, we shall understand. Thank you for your attention and the work you have been doing for our nation.

EX-109 REC-65 62-104101 70

MAR 3 1961

Yours truly,

/s/ [redacted]

b6
b7C

1 ENCLOSURE

nml ack. 3-2-61
Sew: jka
2 tc-2-28-61

8-Dom/Sec

Miss [redacted]
Rochester 17, N. Y.

b6
b7C

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/30/86 BY SP2 [illegible]

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Our family dentist and friend has become terribly enthused about a certain anti-communist organization in our city. The John Birch Society, named after a soldier who was killed in World War II, seems to be made up of people who are so afraid of communism that they can't think rationally. They do not publicize their name, suspiciously enough, and distribute disturbing literature. In their efforts to combat communism, this society has attacked everyone from Mrs. Roosevelt to Christian Herter and are encouraging the impeachment of Earl Warren! I'm positive that our dentist, who has been avidly attempting to encourage my parents to join, is an innocent person who believes he is devoting his time to a worthwhile organization. The real reason my family and I are interested is that we fear that the communists themselves are behind this.

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

Mr. Hoover, I am seventeen years old, and I have grown tremendously interested in foreign policy and the strengthening of American prestige abroad. As a young person, perhaps I am inclined to be hasty and jump to conclusions. I realize that there must be a great number of communists

~~ENCLOSURE~~

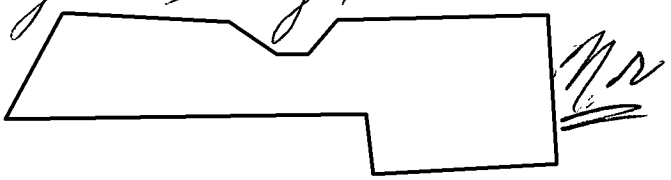
CORRESPONDENCE

ack. 3-1-61 SAW: 2tc-2-28-61

in the United States but I do not believe that as many of our public servants could be aiding Russia as this group is intimating. Having read some of their literature, I feel that someone is behind this organization that is trying to create fear and panic in our country to prevent organized and rational action. I have taken one of the articles we have been given to send to you. The article by the University of Illinois professor, if there is such a person, does not belong to me. Please read it and if you feel that the John Birch Society deserves any degree of attention from your organization, please get in touch with me. My parents feel that this society is dangerous but they weren't sure what to do about it. If you are aware of the existence of this group or if you feel that they are merely exercising their right of freedom of speech, we shall understand. Thank you for your attention and the work you have been doing for our nation.

b6
b7C

Yours truly,



TRUE COPY

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This past wk. I was shown a photostatic (and I asked permission to type it for a copy of my own) copy of the above, and decided you were the best organization to look into this. There is a John Birch Society in the Redstone-Plentywood Sheridan County area. It is causing a lot of stir around here. We don't belong to the society, my husband and I think we can best serve our country by sending these items into you & working on the local level here by keeping our school free of communision by checking our teachers, so we are sure they are all on the level. If you wish to have us continue to do this let us know, if not we won't trouble you, because you must get millions of letters.

[redacted] is on the school board.

Also a big question here is, a woman pays $12.00 per yr. and a man $24.00 per year. This money we are told gets placed in an envelope and sent to headquarters. Their goal is a million members, that would be close to would be an enormouse amount of money. A book, called the "Blue Book" is given to the members, The "Politician" which is mentioned must be in circulation among the leaders of the Society, because when you hear them talk, their opinion of Eisenhower is nil.

Hope this isn't to much trouble but I feel better having sent it on to you.

Sincerely

b6
b7C

/s/ Mrs. [redacted]
Redstone, Montana.

mail
acks.
2-24-61
SAW: jpa
autoptd -2-21-61
2tc - 2-21-61

61

8-Dem/SAW

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/96 BY JpMacmre

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-22-86 BY SP2 [illegible]

Dr. [redacted]
[redacted] Rochester 10, N. Y.

b6
b7C

ALL AMERICA MUST KNOW THE TERROR THAT IS UPON US.

(From a speech by Dr. R. P. Oliver, University of Illinois Professor of the Classics, in March, 1959, before the DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION Annual Illinois State Convention. Dr. Oliver has life tenure at the University of Illinois and writes for NATIONAL REVIEW and other libertarian publications.)

Distribute this to others!

You have doubtless seen the recent and cleverly advertised book entitled **What We Must Know About Communism** by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet. It is a strange book. I cannot take time to analyze it or to discuss the possible motives for the authors' silence about **the most important parts of the vast web of subversion that extends from the humblest primary school to the highest court in our land.** But I shall limit myself to matters that the Overstreets ignore or evade. And I can give only the most perfunctory summary of a few selected aspects of the terror that is upon us.

I first encountered Communists and their allies, the "liberal intellectuals," when I was a lad in college, and I then formed the impression of them that so many people of my generation still carry in their minds. The pro-Communists among my fellows were so childish and so ignorant! Many of them, to be sure, were glib enough in parroting the phrases and arguments they had heard or read, but they obviously belonged to the group that worked hard only to avoid hard intellectual work. They talked, and they seemed to believe, Marxism, a crude and absurd superstition that can be taken seriously by no one who has any knowledge of human history and Occidental culture.

There were also a few members of the faculty who were obviously pro-Communist—remember that this was years and years ago, and the college in which I was an undergraduate was not so progressive as others even at that time—a few members of the faculty, I say, but they were all teaching the "science" of "education" or some similar bunk that was obviously a fraud on the public and an insult to the intelligence of an educated man. My friends and I thought the Commies, young or old, very funny.

We had all heard, of course, of what had happened and was happening in Russia, but we did not know then what everyone knows now, that the Bolshevik butchery in Russia had been organized in the United States, financed from the United States, and carried out by a gang of 1700 disciplined assassins, most of whom came from New York City. And in any case Russia was a distant and barbarous country, and nothing could be more ludicrous than a suggestion that what had happened there could conceivably happen here. . . .

I spent the war mostly in Washington, in the most secret department of the Army, and my first shock virtually coincided with the beginning of my work there. One of our basic maxims was this: **"Remember that everything that is known in the White House is known in the Kremlin."** That was a shock at the time, although now, of course, everyone who has read at all about Communism knows that Roosevelt's assistant, **Lauchlin Currie**, a counterpart of the more recently infamous **Sherman Adams**, was a Communist agent and that he, with a trained corps of at least thirty traitors, **presided over all the activities of the White House.**

It was not until later that **Harry Hopkins**, the man who dispatched to Moscow all the plans for the atomic bomb together with the materials necessary to manufacture it, moved into the White House to supervise the work of treason.

At that time Washington was full of Communists, both domestic and foreign, and they had already obtained that complete control of most of the governmental bureaus that they have held ever since and progressively increased. It was a matter of common knowledge that in many of the civilian agencies only persons approved by the Communist party could hold offices of any responsibility. That is, of course, mere commonplace now, and, in informed circles, was mere commonplace then.

We all know, for example that **Congressman Dies** of Texas happened to obtain photographs of a part of the Communist records which showed that 2,500 members of just three governmental departments—State, Justice, and Interior—were card-carrying members of the Communist Party. He took those records to **President Roosevelt**, who, in one of those fits of almost insane temper to which he was so frequently subject, screamed out, **"Many of my best friends are Communists!,"** and ordered the Congressman from **the room.**

It is not so generally known that a presidential order commanded the Naval Intelligence service immediately to cease all inquiry into the activities of Communists, whether domestic or alien, and to **destroy all records concerning Communist traitors and spies.**

Washington was in 1942 what it is today **—a city in which,** as one bureaucrat complacently assured me, **"you've got to be a Communist to get anywhere."** It was even a city in which it was dangerous to be an American. I was there during the obscene farce—in many ways a tragic farce—called the "Sedition Trial." Everyone in Washington knew that the one purpose of this trial was to intimidate Americans. Read about it sometime. Thirty men and women from all over the country, most of whom had never even heard of one another and who had in common only outspoken criticism of Communism, were hauled to Washington in hand-cuffs and leg irons, imprisoned in cells kept dark so that they could not read, and subjected to the most fantastic trial for conspiracy ever conducted outside Russia or an admittedly satellite state.

The presiding judge, **Eicher**, who had, I understand, been appointed on the demand of **Felix Frankfurter**, was one of the new breed of Federal judges, that is to say, viciously corrupt, and he finally died while under impeachment for malfeasance in office.

The Assistant Attorney General of the U. S. who prosecuted the case was another protege of **Felix Frankfurter**, and he was rewarded for his efforts when in 1950 he went to Russia as the personal guest of Stalin.

The Hungarian revolt provides one of the hundreds of bits of evidence that show the close cooperation between the Kremlin and the bureaucracy that captured Washington under Franklin Roosevelt and has been expanding and strengthening itself ever since.

When the Hungarian people spontaneously rose in revolt, they were, as several refugees have assured me, cozened and confused by lying broadcasts from the radio station that is so sardonically called **Radio Free Europe.** This station, which, as Fulton Lewis has recently shown, **is staffed largely by Communist agents,** is supported by secret grants from C.I.A., our **Central Intelligence Agency.** It is also supported by funds collected every year from the American people. That is just a bit of Communist humor. They delight in tricking Americans into contributing money to ostensibly charitable enterprises **for their own destruction.**

When the Hungarians suffered, and died, and begged in vain for help, only one nation in Europe dared to offer them even a modicum of assistance. That was Spain, a nation headed by **General Francisco Franco**, whom the Communist-dominated press in the United States so regularly vilifies. Spain agreed to send the Hungarians the weapons they most desperately needed, **anti-tank guns.** Spain arranged to transport the guns in her own planes, and arranged with Germany to permit these planes, on their return trip, to land to refuel, since the Spanish planes could not carry enough gasoline for a round trip. Now our **Central Intelligence Agency**, which seems never to be able to discover anything to the advantage of the United States, quickly found out about the Spanish plan to help the Hungarians.

The C.I.A transmitted the information to our State Department, which immediately went into action and brought very strong pressure to bear on the German government **to cancel the permission that had been given for the Spanish planes to refuel on their return journey.** Thus was Washington able to save the Russians considerable inconvenience during their massacre of the Hungarians.

The **Central Intelligence Agency** is an organization so secret that even our senators are not allowed to know anything of its operations. But, as was recently disclosed in **National Review**, the head of any section of this agency has full power to employ even persons whose Communist records are in the files of the F.B.I. The agency has undoubtedly undergone progressive change in the past nine years. It was in June, 1949, you will remember, that Admiral Hillenkoetter, who was then head of the agency, received an inquiry from Senator McCarran concerning **one hundred new appointees to the United Nations staff.** Admiral Hillenkoetter replied that according to a preliminary check of his records, **29 of these appointees were officers in the Communist Party** and that **32 others were known members of the Russian espionage system.** Admiral Hillenkoetter was immediately transferred to a desolate outpost in the Pacific. This was, of course, but one of the many incidents by which our army and navy officers have been shown that **they dare not do anything that would displease our Communist conspirators.**

I trust that you have not overlooked the latest triumph of what may fairly be called the Washington-Moscow Axis. The Batista government in Cuba was not, to be sure, a perfect government, but it probably was as good a government as one could ever reasonably expect to find in an island largely populated by mongrels. Batista, however, had committed the one sin that is unforgiveable in the eyes of the people who call themselves our "liberal intellectuals": **he was an enemy of Communism.** Not only was he a reliable ally of the United States, but he had even gone so far as to **sever diplomatic relations with Russia**, an act which greatly embarrassed our State Department. **It was clear, therefore, that he must be eliminated.** Accordingly the revolt led by **Fidel Castro** was organized. You will recall that **some of the preparations for it were quite openly made in Florida.**

Now although Castro thought it worth while to say that he is not himself a member of the Communist Party, **his principal assistants including his brother,** were **notorious Communists,** and no reasonable person, even slightly acquainted with Latin-American affairs, could ever have doubted that **the Castro revolt was a Communist operation intended primarily to secure bases for the many Russian submarines which are constantly cruising along our Atlantic Coast, and to permit the establishment of rocket bases within one hundred miles of American soil.**

During the progress of his takeover in Cuba, Castro received supplies **from Russian submarines,** and, of course, vast quantities from the United States. The shipments from Florida were, of course, technically smuggled to him, but oddly enough **our government was never able to intercept them.**

But even with this help Castro would have failed but for the energetic **intervention of our State Department.** The technique used is, of course, a standard procedure and should be quite familiar to all of us by now.

You will recall that when **General George Marshall** was sent to **China** to arrange for the Communist occupation of that country, he was able to accomplish his mission by simply **cutting off from General Chiang Kai-Shek** the supplies of **ammunition that he needed for his soldier's rifles,** which were all, of course, of American manufacture. **$150,000,000 worth of ammunition on ships that were about to land was simply dumped in the ocean,** and, of course, no further shipments were made. Thus Chiang Kai-Shek's men could not use even their rifles, to say nothing of machine guns and artillery, and he had to retreat before the Communist invaders, who had been **equipped with the huge Japanese stores of weapons and munitions that we had turned over to them in Manchuria.**

Following this established pattern, our State Department **cut off all supplies of ammunition to the small army of Colonel Batista in Cuba,** which was, of course, equipped with weapons purchased in the United States. Even ammunition that Batista had bought and **already paid for** was confiscated on the docks. It seems quite clear that Batista's men did not desert: **they simply had nothing to shoot.**

You will also remember that while the great betrayal in China was under way under the direction of such eminent figures as **General Marshall** and **Professor Owen Lattimore,** the controlled press in this country was filled with propaganda to the effect that Chiang Kai-Shek was a scoundrel, and that the Communists in China were just innocent "agrarian reformers."

The same technique is, of course, now being used. The press is once again filled with **manufactured reports** of the past iniquities of Batista, and with glowing accounts of **Fidel Castro** as an "agrarian reformer" and **the "George Washington of Cuba."** . . .

As soon as the Russians have built their submarine bases and set up the launching fields for ballistic missiles in Cuba, our State Department will no doubt again tell us: "Oops! We were mistaken. But now that launching sites for atomic missiles have been set up **within one hundred miles of the United States,** war is unthinkable, ain't it?"

By the way, you will probably witness in the next few months **the destruction of our only remaining ally in the Caribbean**—our only certain ally south of Canada, **the Dominican Republic.** That was, to my mind, clearly forecast by the Galindez affair three years ago, but it has now been made quite certain by our recent official proclamation, **issued over the name of President Eisenhower,** to the effect that we look with great disapproval upon "dictators" such as General Trujillo

The Communist underground is our real danger, and no one can accurately measure its total strength. Its members all vociferously deny that they are Communists, and they are so organized that when everything is working properly no one conspirator can positively identify more than five of his accomplices. **Louis Budenz** recounts with wry humor that when he had worked himself far enough up in the Communist Party to become managing editor of the Daily Worker and a member of the official party's national executive council, he began to fancy himself a person of some importance, until one of his superiors remarked dryly, **"Son, all that you have seen is just the periscope of the submarine."**

On 3 March 1958 Congressman Francis E. Walter published a report that **"the Kremlin has succeeded in enlisting, at a conservative estimate, more than a million Americans.** . . . There are at this moment the equivalent of some **twenty combat divisions** of enemy troops on American soil . . . troops that are **loyal only to the Soviets."** In other words, you are now living in a country that has been partly occupied. Unless the American people now make a desperate effort to save themselves, they will, **within four years,** I think, find themselves in the position of the Hungarians when they made their frantic effort to regain their freedom three years ago.

(Professor Oliver's speech will be concluded next month with the background of the Communist Party in America from 1872 to the present time—giving startling information on Communist infiltration in one of the largest departments of our Federal Government.)

Reprinted by permission from FREE ENTERPRISE, 111 North Wabash Ave., Chicago 2, Illinois

ALL AMERICA MUST KNOW

How Reds Work In Our Government

(From a speech by Dr. R. P. Oliver, University of Illinois Professor of the Classics, in March, 1959, before the DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION Annual Illinois State Convention. Dr. Oliver has life tenure at the University of Illinois and writes for NATIONAL REVIEW and other libertarian publications.)

Distribute this to others!

(Continued from May Issue)

In Washington it was—and is—easy to meet Communists; in fact, what is difficult is to avoid meeting them. I tried to take advantage of the opportunity to observe the vermin socially. And I have been observing them ever since.

There are two basic facts that one must bear in mind when one tries to understand Communists.

First, all the talk about an "ideological struggle" is mostly nonsense. No Communist, except gullible college boys and other children, really believes in the doctrine of socialism. Marx's absurd theories are merely a propaganda device, a means to an end. The intellectual processes of the Communist have been well explained by Czeslaw Milosz in his **Captive Mind**, and by Gerhart Niemeyer in his **Inquiry into the Soviet Mentality**, but they were best epitomized by **Duane Thorin.**

This young American, who had somehow escaped brain-washing in his high school and college, was taken prisoner in Korea and interrogated for months by the Chinese Communists who sought to convert him. He received some attention from a really important Communist official, and his native shrewdness enabled him to see that the Communists who make the decisions had only contempt for their inferiors who really believed the Marxist propaganda. As Thorin neatly puts it: "Intellects that failed to see through the falsities of Communism were so arrested that they were of only limited use in the totalitarian state."

It is quite incorrect, therefore, to say of a Communist, unless you mean that he is a fool, that he believes in Communism. Communism is not a theory in which men may believe; **it is a conspiracy** in which men participate. So far as Communism has an intellectual basis, that basis may be found in the doctrine, not of Karl Marx, but of **John Dewey.** The Communist is the perfect Pragmatist; he is a Nihilist; he believes that there is no such thing as truth. He repudiates and hates all the traditions and culture of the Past; there is no truth, there is no value in the world but the satisfaction of his own whims and appetites, whatever they may be. **Intellectually speaking, he is a beast—perhaps the *lowest and most* dangerous of all beasts.**

Perhaps the neatest illustration of the intellectual processes of a Communist and the jargon that he loves to use will be found in comments made to me by **a university president** some time ago. I had happened to mention the old ideal of scholarship and learning: disinterested pursuit of truth. I thought that he would at least pay lipservice to this ideal, but he interrupted me imperiously.

"There is no truth but social truth," he said.

"And what," I asked, "is social truth?"

He replied quite simply: **"It is what it is expedient for a society to tell its members."**

"And who," I asked, "determines what story it is expedient to tell the suckers?"

He smiled. **"WE do."**

Now I cannot be certain that the man in question was a member of the Communist underground, but the reasoning that he employed is that of the Communist mind. There is no truth; there is only expediency. Truth, in other words, is lies.

But intellectual nihilism, the repudiation of all concepts of truth, justice, humanity, is not sufficient to explain the terrible energy of the Communist conspiracy. That energy is emotional: it is a lust, a craving, a passion. I had my first glimpse of this passion early in my days in Washington.

I met a young man who had just come into the army. He looked like an amiable college boy, and, as a matter of fact, he had been graduated from law school only two or three years before. He had been working for **the Labor Relations Board,** and he enthusiastically described to me the way in which he and his colleagues would raid **small American corporations** that were inclined to be recalcitrant, seize their books and cart them off, ostensibly for the purpose of photographing them, but actually to force the company, paralyzed by the loss of its records, to submit. I was a little shocked, and I asked, "Lieutenant, didn't it seem to you that you were violating the constitutional rights of American business men?" He was a young man, and he answered promptly, "Rights? Why, they're capitalists. When we stand them up against a wall, **we will shoot them in the belly: they die longer that way."**

That was how I first came to suspect the real orientation of Communist minds, but only after years of observation, and with help from the illuminating analysis by Denis de Rougemont, did I realize that the young man was exceptional only in the readiness with which he let slip the mask. The true Communist, whatever disguise he may wear when he moves among you, is, in the literal and exact meaning of the English word, **a thug,** that is, **a man who has made a religion of murder.**

He is driven by an overwhelming lust to destroy and uproot, to annihilate civilization, to kill—and even more than that, to make decent men and women suffer, to degrade them to the level of animals. And he will work constantly, tirelessly, with infinite cunning for his ideal: The day when he will drag you from your home, kick in your teeth, crack your ribs, and throw you into a slave-labor camp where you will drag out the rest of your life in a degradation that you have never imagined even in nightmares. That is what he yearns for. **Economic and social theories are merely a disguise to befuddle suckers.**

In 1872, when the headquarters of the international Communist conspiracy were openly and officially transferred to New York City, there were only a few hundred people in the United States who were inspired by this bloodlust. But they went to work, patiently, doggedly, and with vicious cunning, to extend their tentacles over the entire nation. They went underground. By 1876 practically all of the members, including, of course, the new recruits, had been instructed to conceal their membership and deny that they were Communists; to penetrate existing American organizations, and to help one another attain positions of influence and power in those organizations; **to work for the Communist goal** under the guise of "social reform" and "democracy." This is, of course, the basic strategy that has been followed ever since.

By 1907 the Communists were strong enough to organize a wing of the party that operated openly under the leadership of a criminal named **William Z. Foster.** One of Foster's closest associates and advisers, in 1907 or soon thereafter, was **Felix Frankfurter,** an immigrant who had wormed his way into the post of secretary to the Secretary of War in the cabinet of President Howard Taft.

By 1910 the first big Communist cell was planted in an American university—**Harvard,** of course. So far as I have been able to learn, the famous cells in **Teachers College of Columbia University** were not organized until somewhat later.

By 1917 the Communist conspiracy in the United States was strong enough directly to affect the policies of the American government. As everyone knows, the Communist seizure of power in Russia was carried out by criminals trained in the United States. A whole shipload of this vermin was sent from New York City under the command of a butcher named **Leib Bronstein,** who became famous under one of his many aliases, **Leon Trotsky.** This ship was intercepted by the British Navy and taken to Halifax, but a vigorous protest from **President Wilson** forced the British to release this shipment of human germs and escort it to Russia.

The pressure on Wilson doubtless came from several sources, but the most important seems to have been a banker named **Jakob Schiff,** who had been the financial manager of **Wilson's** presidential campaign, and whose banking house, **Kuhn, Loeb & Co.,** had more than a year earlier deposited in Swedish banks $50,000,000 in the name of **Trotsky** and another degenerate whose true name and early career has never been satisfactorily ascertained but who is known to history as **Nikolai Lenin.**

In 1918 **Felix Frankfurter** was publicly denounced by former President Theodore Roosevelt **as an accomplice of Lenin and Trotsky.** He accordingly retired from the American government to a professorship in **Harvard University,** where he settled down to train two generations of traitors and slip them into positions of responsibility in Washington or into law schools throughout the nation. **Alger Hiss** was but one of the hundreds whom **Frankfurter** prepared for their important tasks.

I have mentioned these dates primarily to remind you of the great progress that the Communist conspiracy made **before 1919,** when they decided to set up an official political party headed again by **William Z. Foster.** This official party, the segment of the conspiracy that is openly displayed, has never been large. **It probably has never had over 90,000 card-carrying members at any one time.** It has served on the one hand as a recruiting and testing agency to enlist talented conspirators who, after they had proven their worth and ability, could quietly be transferred to one or another division of the underground, and it has served on the other hand as a shield to mask and facilitate the work of the part of the apparatus that consists of conspirators who pose as "liberal intellectuals," and who urge the American people to save themselves from Communism **by reforming their legal and economic system along Communist lines at home,** and **by taxing themselves to finance Communist governments abroad. . . .**

Now these foreign events, although, of course, designed to weaken further our military position, are, in the Communist plans, **strictly subordinate to the great program of internal subversion.** This also has its center in Washington. Let me call your attention to one detail that you may not have noticed. We have all read about the president's so-called "economy" budget, and the loud yammering in Congress for increased expenditures, which is, of course, primarily a means of making foolish Americans think they have gained something if merely the crippling burden of that "economy" budget is dumped on their backs. **Taxation has always been one or the primary instruments of the Communist conspiracy.** You may remember the famous remark that is attributed to **Harry Hopkins,** I know not how accurately: **"We have to bleed the American pigs dry before we butcher them."**

But in this "economy" budget one should note which department of government was granted the largest increase. It is **the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare,** which, in this budget, is granted a total outlay of $3,139,719,000—**an increase of one billion dollars over 1954.** Now this is the agency that is spending its money to promote such things as **fluoridation of public water supplies.**

By the way, you are here on the scene of one of their great triumphs, probably a triumph obtained by lavish expenditures from the Federal treasury. The unfortunate people of Chicago were ordered by the little dictator in their city hall to drink water contaminated with sodium fluoride, and they are now drinking it, and are not even allowed to express their own opinion by a vote.

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare is also the agency that is currently promoting another Communist scheme to enlist the services of well-meaning dupes under the guise of "social good." The current agitation about **Mental Health** was begun by the **World Health Organization** whose president was that ubiquitous traitor, **Alger Hiss.** It is sponsored in this country by the **National Association for Mental Health,** whose director, **Julius Schrieber,** refused to tell a Congressional committee whether or not he was a Communist on the grounds that **his answer might incriminate him.**

But the greatest promotion is, of course, done **with *your money*** by **the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.** In this one department, according to **Herbert** Philbrick, an agent of the F.B.I. who spent nine years in the Communist party, you will find **fully one-third of the top echelon of Communist conspirators in this country.** Note, please, that he does not say that one-third of the people in the Department are Communists. On the contrary, observers in Washington estimate that **75% to 80% of the responsible officers are conspirators.**

Philbrick's point is that **of the whole top echelon of international criminals, one-third have chosen to place themselves in that one department.** That's a lot of rotten eggs to put in one basket, but the statistic will help you understand why this department needs $3,139,719,000 for its "minimal" operations next year.

I have said enough, I think, to suggest **how desperate our situation is.** Our ancestors were never confronted by a danger **so terrible** and **so immediate.**

But I permit myself to see some hope. As the huge sale of the Overstreet book shows, **the American people,** who watched in a narcotic apathy, induced by the press and the radio, while the Communist conspiracy struck down the late Senator Joseph McCarthy, **are at last becoming faintly aware of their danger.** Some people everywhere have been made uneasy by such outrageous exhibitions of Communist confidence as the use of paratroopers to overawe Americans who **thought** that they had constitutional rights. Protest is at last being heard against taxes that are imposed ostensibly for "welfare" and "progress," but in reality **merely to bleed dry what Hopkins called "the American pigs."** Farmers are rejecting the bribes offered them by the commissars, and resenting governmental terrorism. And what is even more important, on the local level in many a community **people are becoming aware of the real purposes behind such things** as regional planning, fluoridation, "mental health," "counselling programs" in the schools, and the many other local activities that serve the Communist purpose of **persuading the boobs to fasten on themselves their own chains.**

I know of no more clear and concise program for Americans than that which you set forth in the magnificent set of resolutions adopted last April by your Continental Congress. I may say that I first permitted myself to hope when I read those resolutions in the pages of the **American Mercury,** a magazine which, by the way, **the Communist conspiracy,** through its control of the distributing agencies, **has succeeded in barring from most of the nation's newsstands.**

Remember that **the tentacles of the conspiracy reach into your home town,** where its puppets are promoting fluoridation, "mental health," and innumerable other plans to accustom us to gradually increasing slavery and intimidation. On these issues also you have in your resolutions given Americans a program for action.

Take that program and act by it in all matters, national or local. Make your voice heard. Each one of you belongs to a club or a social circle. Speak out; **tell Americans of their danger.** I ask you for courage and resolution: you have displayed them as an organization; now display them as individuals in the community to which you belong.

This may, I know, entail some sacrifice. But our ancestors risked their lives and their honor **to create this nation.** Is it too much to ask us to risk our lives, if necessary, **to recapture it from our enemies?**

REPRINTS AVAILABLE
100 for $2.25 · Less than 100 - 2½¢ each
NATIONAL REPRINT SERVICE
BOX 365, PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS

DEC-65 62-109101-710

March 2, 1961

Dr. [redacted]
The Wooster Clinic
1740 Cleveland Road
Wooster, Ohio

Dear Dr. [redacted]

Your letter of February 22, 1961, has been received, and I am pleased that you have found my articles of interest. Your grave concern over communism is understandable, and I am enclosing some material which you may wish to read.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 27
MAR 2 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

see NOTE next page

SAW:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM
TELETYPE UNIT

65 MAR 8 1961

Letter to Dr. [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

THE WOOSTER CLINIC
1740 CLEVELAND RD.
WOOSTER, OHIO
PHONE AN 3-9015

E. E. JUDD, M. D.
JAMES E. ROBERTSON, M. D.
W. M. WATSON, M. D.
RALPH COTTLE, M. D.
A. BURNEY HUFF, M. D.

FRANK A. CEBUL, M. D.
HOWARD C. MACMILLAN, M. D.
MORRIS S. DIXON, JR., M. D.
JERRY N. BOSNAK, M. D.

February 22, 1961

EXP. PROC.
FEB 24 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Department of the FBI
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am very interested in doing what I can to alert my friends to the danger of International Communism. I have enjoyed your articles, and have passed many of the re-prints, especially those that appear in The Reader's Digest, on to my friends.

Lately I have heard of an organization known as The John Birch Society, that seems to be directed by Mr. Robert Welch of Massachusetts. From what I have been able to find out, this seems to be a very worthwhile organization with the same general principles.

I wonder if you are familiar with this organization and would be kind enough to advise me of its objectives?

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 SP1MacyMKR

ABH/js

REC- 65 62-104401-710
FEB 24 1961
EX-113
CORRESPONDENCE

REC- 76

62- 104401 - 711

March 3, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
Sun Oil Company
Post Office Box 850
Jackson, Mississippi

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of February 23, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 20
MAR 3 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (6)
(Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

RWE:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

50 MAR 9 1961

THIS FILE UNIT

Letter to Mr. [redacted]

Enclosures
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

b6
b7C

NOTE: The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

No record identifiable with correspondent. Bufiles indicate prior cordial correspondence with one [redacted] in Chester, Pennsylvania.

2. SUN OIL COMPANY

S. M. GLADNEY
MANAGER

T. F. HILL
ASSISTANT MANAGER

SOUTHWEST DIVISION
RIO GRANDE NATIONAL BUILDING
P. O. BOX 2880
DALLAS 21, TEXAS

3. P. O. Box 850
4. Jackson, Mississippi

February 23, 1961

1-1

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Office of John Edgar Hoover
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

I am interested in the John Birch Society. Its goals and interests appear to be in the interest of freedom as opposed to communism and an over socialization of our country. I have no method of investigating nor judging said society and am desirous of knowing whether the organization is affiliated with any known communist organization or has promoted anything considered subversive or unAmerican.

I would appreciate a synopsis of the opinions and findings of Federal Bureau of Investigation on the John Birch Society.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

b6
b7C

SLB,Jr.

REC-76 62-104401-711

EX-117

17 FEB 27 1961

CORRESPONDENCE

FEB 27 1961

REC- 84 62-104401-112

March 3, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Montgomery, Alabama

b6
b7C

3/29/86 Spinachine

Dear Mrs. [redacted]:

Your letter dated February 22, 1961, has been received. It was kind of you to comment favorably on our pamphlet entitled "Communist Target--Youth," and I want to thank you sincerely for your best wishes.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing other material on the general subject of communism available for general distribution by the FBI.

MAIL 19 MAR 3 1961 COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

MAR 3 10 06 AM '61 READING ROOM

b6
b7C

Enclosures (7) (Listed after note)
NOTE: One Mrs. [redacted] Washington, D. C., telephonically contacted the Director's Office in February 1954, relative to a personal problem involving her divorce from her husband. (66-2120-5963) No other references located which might be identifiable with correspondent. Correspondent's address verified by telephone directory check.

DCL:mb
(3)

What You Can Do To Fight Communism
How To Beat Communism
Series from Christianity Today
Director's Speech 10-18-60
Press Release 12-22-60
One Nation's Response to Communism
Expose of Soviet Espionage

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 MAR 9 1961

TRUE COPY

Feb. 22, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.
Washington
D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I should like to congratulate you on the excellence of your report in the pamphlet "Communist Target - Youth." It needs much publicity.

My highest regards to you for years of good work for American.

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]

Montgomery
Alabama

Member - The John Birch Society

b6
b7C

A

REC- 84

62-104401-712

5 MAR 8 1961

mail
ack 3-3-61
ltr 3-3-61
del/mb

3/27/86 Sp/macmpe

Feb. 22, 1961

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.
Washington
D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 BY Spmcelmke

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I should like to congratulate you on the excellence of your report in the pamphlet "Communist Target - Youth". It needs much publicity.

My highest regards to you for years of good work for America.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Adelyn Richardson
2421 Colonial Dr.
Montgomery
Alabama

b6
b7C

mmk
ack 3-3-61
ltr 3-3-61
Member - The John Birch Society

CORRESPONDENCE

2921 Colonial Dr.
Montgomery, Ala.

MONTGOMERY
FEB 25
5 PM
1961
ALA.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/20/88 BY [illegible]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Chief Investigator
F.B.I.
Washington
D.C.

RA REC-73 62-104401-713

EX-114

March 6, 1961

Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]

Midland, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter dated February 23, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only, due to regulations of the Department of Justice. The functions and responsibilities of this Bureau as a Federal investigative agency, furthermore, do not extend to furnishing evaluations or drawing conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiries.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing material on the subject of communism available for general distribution by the FBI.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 20
MAR 6 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (6)

3-60 LEB Introduction & 17th Convention
One Nation's Response to Communism
The Communist Menace and God & Country or Communism?
(Enclosures and note continued next page)

62 MAR 10 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

DCL:elw (3)

b6
b7C

Mr. [redacted] 3-6-61

Enclosures (6) continued:

Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Robert Welch, head of the John Birch Society, has been bitter in attacks upon the Eisenhower Administration, and our field offices have been alerted to watching the activities of his group

It has been necessary on several occasions to admonish Myron C. Fagan, national director of the Cinema Educational Guild, Inc., for his use of the Bureau's name in furthering the sensational-type literature his group disseminates. He also has implied that he has had access to our files.

America's Future, Inc., has not been investigated by the Bureau, and John T. Flynn, its head, is a veteran writer and lecturer on anticommunism. He was affiliated with the America First Committee during World War II. (62-60629)

Correspondent's inquiry regarding impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren is probably submitted since some of Myron C. Fagan's leaflets have urged such impeachment.

TRUE COPY

February 23, 1961

F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Could you please send me a letter giving me some information on :

The John Birch Society
also;

Cinema Educational Guild, Inc.
P. O. Box 46205, Cole Branch
Hollywood 46, California
also on;

America's Future, Inc.
542 Main Street
New Rochelle, New York

And, I hope this is not asking to much, some information about the impeachment proceedings being brought against Chief Justice Earl Warren, is it a subversive movement?

Thank you very much. This information would be very informing and helpful as I am a senior in High School and would like to know more about each.

Thank you,

/s/ [redacted] b6 b7C

Midland, Texas

Ex-114

True copy
3/3/61

REC- 73 62-104401-713

MAR 7 1961

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 BY

ack
3-6-61
DCL/elw

February 23, 1961

F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen;

Could you please send me a letter giving me some information on:

The John Birch Society

also;

Cinema Educational Guild, Inc.
P.O. Box 46205, Cole Branch
Hollywood 46, California

also on;

America's Future, Inc.
542 Main Street
New Rochelle, New York

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINED
NEITHER RECOMMENDATIONS NOR CONCLUSIONS OF THE FBI
IT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE FBI AND IS LOANED TO YOUR AGENCY
3/27/86 [illegible]

And, I hope this is not asking to much, some information about the impeachment proceedings being brought against Chief Justice Earl Warren, is it a subversive movement?

Thank you very much. This information would be very informing and helpful as I am a senior in High School and would like to know more about each.

Thank you

[redacted]

b6
b7C

mmd
ack
2-6-61

Mid[redacted]

CORRESPONDENCE

March 6, 1961

REC-76 62-[illegible]-714

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Burlington, Washington

b6
b7C

3/27/86 [illegible]

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked February 23, 1961, has been received, and your kind comment about the work of this Bureau is indeed appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 20
MAR 6 - 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (6)
(Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

SAW:lcl* (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Letter to Mrs. [redacted]

b6
b7C

Enclosures
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: Bufiles reflects limited cordial correspondence with Mrs. [redacted] The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Burlington,
Wash.
Feb. 23, 1950

Mr. J. E. Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

b6
b7C

Could you give me any information on "The John Birch Society"?"

I do wish to thank you again for your efficient taskforce.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mrs. [redacted]

P.S. I would appreciate any material you can spare on Communism.

true copy
3/3/61 lcc

Ack: 3/6/61
Stan: lcc

mail

COMPARED
3/21/61

Mrs [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Burlington,
Wash.

Feb 23, 1950

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/80 BY [illegible]

Mr. J. E. Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

Could you give me any information on "The John Birch Society"?

JOHN BIRCH Society

~~I do wish to thank~~ you again for your efficient taskforce.

b6
b7C

EX 109

REC-76

Sincerely,

62-104401-714

Mrs [redacted]

FEB 27 1961

FEB 27 1961

P.S. I would appreciate any material you can spare on Communism.

CORRESPONDENCE

REC-44 62-104401-715

EX 101

March 1, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Delaware, Ohio

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter dated February 18, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the functions and responsibilities of the FBI as a Federal investigative agency do not extend to furnishing evaluations or drawing conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

In view of your interest, I am enclosing material currently available for general distribution by the FBI relating to communism.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 39
MAR 2 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Series from Christianity Today
How to beat Communism
The Communists Are After Our Minds
One Nation's Response to Communism
Communist Target--Youth

NOTE: (SEE NEXT PAGE)

51 MAR 15 1961

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The John Birch Society was founded by Robert Welch of Belmont, Massachusetts. It is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Welch has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order that it might attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch was openly critical of the President, his book, "The Politicion." A vicious attack on Eisenhower even accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

Feb. 18, 1961

Dear Sirs:

There is an organization called "The John Birch Society." I would appreciate any information you may have on file in regard to the society being an anti-communist movement and also would you identify John Birch.

Feb. 17, in Delaware, Ohio, there was a meeting of the society at the home of [redacted] M. D. There were 100 people present. I tried to go in place of a friend but couldn't because my name hadn't been submitted and I didn't have a written invitation to present at the door. The speaker was Rev. [redacted] a Baptist minister. His topic was "Socialism and the Bible" Some of his statements follow.

b6
b7C

Franklin D. Roosevelt was a Communist.

Mrs. Roosevelt doesn't really want peace.

Mr. Eisenhower did nothing for 8 yrs. to stop Communism.

80% of the ministers active in the Council of Churches are Communists.

Dag Hammarskjold is a Communist. The Russians are yelling wolf so we anti-communists will want Hammarskjold to stay active in the U.N.

Rev. Oxman, head of the Methodist Church, is a Communist. This is a Methodist town.

EX 101

After all his warning he said there is nothing we can do about Communists and their activities because our future is predicted in the Bible.

REC-44 62-104401-715

Am I right in assuming this is possibly a Communist movement rather than an anti-Communist one? What is your advice. Any information you can send me will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

/s/ Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Delaware, Ohio

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/27/86 EXPUNGED

1 to file
rec'd 3-1-61
DCL:pm

Feb. 18, 1961

N.R. Porfolio

Dear Sir:

There is an organization called "The John Birch Society." I would appreciate any information you may have on file in regard to the society being an anti-communist movement and also would you identify John Birch.

Feb. 17, in Delaware, Ohio, there was a meeting of the society at the home of [redacted] M.D. There were 100 people present. I tried to go in place of a friend but couldn't because my name had it

b6
b7C

CORRESPONDENCE

been submitted and ~~the~~ I didn't have a written invitation to present at the class. The speaker was Rev. [redacted], a Baptist minister. His topic was "Socialism and the Bible" Some of his statements follow:

Franklin D. Roosevelt was a Communist.

Mrs. Roosevelt doesn't really want peace.

Mr. Eisenhower did nothing for 8 yrs. to stop Communism.

80% of the ministers active in the Council of Churches are Communists.

b6
b7C

Dag Hammarskjold is a Communist. The Russians are yelling wolf so we anti-communists will want Hammarskjold to stay active in the U.N.

Rev. Oxman, head of the Methodist Church, is a Communist. This is a Methodist town.

After all his warning he said there is nothing we can do about Communists and their activities because our future is predicted in the Bible.

Am I right in assuming this is possibly a

Communist movement rather than an anti-Communist one? What is your advice. Any information you can send me will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Delaware, Ohio

b6
b7C

Ite 2-27-61
pmc

nml
ack
3-27-61
TCL: pmc

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/81 BY pmacmie

REC-44 62-104401-916 March 6, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
Monticello, Georgia

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of February 22, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 20
MAR 6 - 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
(Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

SAW:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

62 MAR 10 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

b6
b7C

Letter to Mrs. [redacted]

Enclosures
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Howard D. Smoot, Former SA, resigned following censure, probation and transfer due to several unfounded charges made by him against his SAC, and due to his dereliction in not apprising the Bureau of certain matters. He was not recommended for reinstatement. (67-263689)

TRUE COPY

Monticello, Ga.
Feb. 22, 1961.

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Fed. Bureau of Investigation
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir,

I would like to know the rating given, Dan Smoot, P. O. Box 9611, Lakewood Station, Dallas 14 Texas and The John Birch Society which I understand originated in Houston Texas. Would you consider them worthy organizatons to work with in the task of helping to understand Communism at work in our country?

Thanking you I am

yours sincerely,

%s/[redacted]

(Mrs.[redacted] Monticello, Ga.

b6
b7C

True copy
3/3/61 lcl

62-104401-716

REC-44

MAR 8 1961

Clck: 3/6/61
SAW: lcl

8-Dem 1500

EX-117

3/27/86

SEE OUR

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Monticello, Ga.
Feb. 22, 1961.

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
Fed. Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

I would like to know the rating given, Dan Smoot, P.O. Box 9611, Lakewood Station Dallas 14 Texas and The John Birch Society which I understand originated in Houston Texas. Would you consider them worthy organizations to work with in the task of helping to understand Communism at work in our country?

Thanking you I am

Yours sincerely,

CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Mrs. [redacted] (2) Monticello, Ga.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/30/80 BY [illegible]

REC-94 62-104401-717

EX 109

March 7, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Midland, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

3/27/86 Spinachia

Your letter of February 20, 1961, with enclosure, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry. I can assure you that I have never sanctioned this organization.

As a matter of policy, I am unable to comment regarding the pamphlet which you forwarded with your communication. I hope you will understand my position. Enclosed is some material dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest to you, and I am returning the pamphlet which you forwarded. Thank you for bringing it to my attention.

MAILED 25
MAR 7 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (7)
See next page.

See NOTE next page.

RWE:efr (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 MAR 10 1961

b6
b7C

Mrs. [redacted]

Enclosures (7)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Intro.
One Nation's Response to Communism
Series from "Christianity Today"
Director's speech of 10-18-60
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth
Correspondent's enclosure

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the president to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists. Enclosure was a pamphlet published by "The Independent American," New Orleans, Louisiana, self-described as a national Conservative newspaper. The pamphlet was entitled "'Rigged' High School Debates Promote World Government."

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C

Midland, Texas
February 20, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Several weeks ago a friend and neighbor invited me to look over several pamphlets and papers that were distributed to the members of the "John Birch for America" group. I believe the title is accurate. I am writing to you because its members refer to the group as being the only such group to have the sanction of J. Edgar Hoover and the F.B.I. The purpose of the group is the fight against communism.

I have enclosed a pamphlet that has been distributed in the high school. My daughter is a debate student and a very good one I might add. The article is in my estimation a condemnation of the United Nations and ignorant of debate procedure at least as it applies to this area. There are statements in this pamphlet that deeply disturb me. I'm upset to think that in these days of world tension when our President is urging strong support of the United Nations as our bulwark against communist aggression that such literature is being placed in the hands of adults much less those of our high school students.

A few weeks ago as a sponsor of a Tri-Hi-Y group I was present when our group was invited by a Hi-Y group to hear its guest speaker, who was giving a talk about communism. She was introduced as being an authority on the subject, but then all of a sudden here in Midland we've a flood of such authorities. At the close of her talk she asked for questions. My daughter immediately plunged into the topic of the United Nations. When her questions demanded logical answers, the speaker closed the discussion by an abrupt remark that in her estimation it would be better if the United States withdrew from the U.N.

EX 109 REC- 94 62-104401-217

Tonight in one of our junior high schools there was a talk, before the PTA, against communism given by a former pediatrician. It worries me considerably this great flow of talk MAR 8 1961 elementary teachers, doctors, business men, etc. on a most serious subject.

3/27/86 Spinnacine

I should sincerely appreciate knowing first of all if the afore-mentioned group is in fact authorized and sanctioned by you and the FBI. Secondly I should welcome your opinion and advice as regards the enclosed pamphlet being circulated and exposure of our youth to speakers corroborating such theories.

One of the introductory questions by the speakers here is "Would you know a Communist if you met one?" well, I'm not at all sure I would, but I am sure that I'm not going to be shaken in my faith in God, this beloved country and my hopes for the success of the United Nations.

I should like to believe that there are sincere efforts being made to awaken our community to the dangers of communism but fail to see how undermining the United Nations, Nato and the administration while promoting isolation is the proper way to do so.

Thank you so much for your attention. It is selfish of me to presume upon your time when you are burdened with the security of millions but I'll be forever grateful for your counsel.

Sincerely,

Mrs. [redacted] b6 b7C

b6
b7C

Midland, Texas

February 20, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Several weeks ago a friend and neighbor invited me to look over several pamphlets and papers that were distributed to the members of the "John Birch for America" group. I believe the title is accurate. I am writing to you because its members refer to the group as being the only such group to have the sanction of J. Edgar Hoover and the F.B.I. The purpose of the group is the fight against Communism.

ENCLOSURE I have enclosed a pamphlet that has been distributed in the high school. My daughter is a debate student and a very good one. CORRESPONDENCE

is in my estimation a

condemnation of the United Nations and ignorant of debate procedure at least as it applies to this area." There are statements in this pamphlet that deeply disturb me. I'm upset to think that in these days of world tension when our President is urging strong support of the United Nations as our bulwark against communist aggression that such literature is being placed in the hands of adults much less those of our high school students.

A few weeks ago as a sponsor of a Tri-Hi-Y group I was present when our group was invited by a Hi-Y group to hear its guest speaker, who was giving a talk about Communism. He was introduced as being an authority on the subject, but then all people here in Midland were a flood of such

FEB 21 12 42 PM '61
REC'D CORR & TOUR
FBI

J-27-C

authorities. At the close of her talk she asked for questions. My daughter immediately plunged into the topic of the United Nations. When her questions demanded logical answers, the speaker closed the discussion by an abrupt remark that in her estimation it would be better if the United States withdrew from the U.N.

Tonight in one of our junior high schools there was a talk, before the PTA, against communism given by a former pediatrician. It irks me considerably this great flow of talk by elementary teachers, doctors, business men, etc. on a most serious subject.

I should sincerely appreciate knowing first of all if the afore-mentioned group is in fact authorized and sanctioned by you and the FBI.

Secondly I should welcome your opinion and advice as regards the enclosed pamphlet being circulated and the exposure of our youth to speakers corroborating such theories.

One of the introductory questions by the speakers here is "Would you know a Communist if you met one?" Well, I'm not at all sure I would, but I am sure that I'm not going to be shaken in my faith in God, this beloved country and my hopes for the success of the United Nations.

I should like to believe that there are sincere efforts being made to awaken our community to the dangers of Communism but fail to see how undermining the United Nations, Nato and the administration while promoting isolation is the proper way to do so.

Thank you so much for

your attention. It is selfish of me to presume upon your time when you are burdened with the security of millions but I'll be forever grateful for your counsel.

b6
b7C

Sincerely,

Mrs [redacted]

March 6, 1961

62-104401-113

REC-61

Miss [redacted]

[redacted]

Buffalo 1, New York

b6
b7C

Dear Miss Harris:

Your letter of February 25, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 20
MAR 6 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (6)
(Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

RWE:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

51 MAR 10 1961

Letter to Miss [redacted] b6 b7C

Enclosures
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles regarding correspondent. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

[redacted] b6 b7C

Buffalo 1, N. Y.
February 25, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I recently heard a speaker who spoke in support of the John Birch Society. The aims of the society are anti-communistic, but some of the ideas expressed seemed to be rather radical. For instance, the speaker at one point suggested that the U. N. should be abolished and another time that Earl Warren, Supreme Court Justice, should be impeached.

May I please have your opinion on this society and whether it is legitimately anti-commustic. as claimed.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours b6 b7C

/s/ (Miss) [redacted]

1 True copy 3/3/61 lcl

REC- 61 62-104401-718

11 MAR 8 1961

Ack: 3/6/61 RWE: lcl

mml

3/27/86

2. [redacted] b6 b7C

3. Buffalo 1, N.Y.

February 25, 1961

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I recently heard a speaker who spoke in support of the John Birch Society. The aims of the society are anti-communistic, but some of the ideas expressed seemed to be rather radical. For instance, the speaker at one point suggested that the U.N. should be abolished and another time that Earl Warren, Supreme Court Justice, should be impeached.

May I please have your opinion on this society and whether it is legitimately anti-communistic as claimed. b6 b7C

Thank you.

CORRESPONDENCE

Sincerely yours

Miss [redacted]

62 — 104401 — 719

March 6, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Santa Barbara, California

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

The letter from you and your husband was received on February 27, 1261, and your interest in writing is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 31
MAR - 6 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
(Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

SAW:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

62 MAR 10 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

b6
b7C

Letter to Mrs. [redacted]

Enclosures
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

Bufile 100-434516 contains a pamphlet issued by the Young Americans for Freedom (YAFF) which states that this organization was established at a national conference of conservative students and youth leaders held at Sharon, Connecticut, during September, 1960. This conference issued a statement which stated in part "that the forces of international communism are at present the greatest single threat to these (constitutional) liberties; that the United States should stress victory over, rather than coexistence with, this (communist) menace..." Its task is to enlist members from every campus and every community and to organize programs which will develop local conditions and which will achieve local conservative objectives. Material available does not indicate that this group is a subversive organization.

Mr. and Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Santa Barbara, Calif.

b6
b7C

February 22, 1961

BB, 1-1

Dear Mr. Hoover,

We are requesting and would value so very much your personal or public opinion of the John Birch Society. We are members of this organization and though believing very strongly in its principles, we at times feel dismayed by the recent smear campaign going on in Santa Barbara. Knowing how communists use front organizations after reading your book - "Masters of Deceit", could you please let us know if we are being "duped" or "used"?

Thank you so very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

REC-76
EX-112

62 — 104401 — 719

Mr. and Mrs. [redacted]

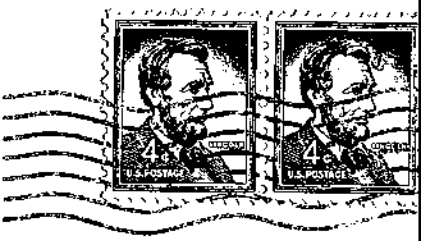
[redacted] Mr.

b6
b7C

P.S. If possible, could you also let us know your opinion of the Young Americans for Freedom Club started at Sharon Conn. in 1960?

Ack: 3/6/61
SAW: lcl

CORRESPONDENCE



AIRMAIL

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

AIRMAIL

Mr. and Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted]

Santa Barbara, Calif.

b6
b7C

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: February 27, 1961

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: MR. SHIRLEY PALMER - BALL
146 SAINT MATTHEWS AVENUE
LOUISVILLE 7, KENTUCKY
INQUIRY RE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

On the morning of February 24, 1961, above-named individual called the Bureau from Louisville, Kentucky, and was referred to SA Thomas F. Mitchell of the Crime Research Section. Mr. Palmer - Ball identified himself as Vice-President of the Palmer Asbestos and Rubber Corporation in Louisville and a volunteer coordinator in the Louisville area for the John Birch Society.

Mr. Palmer - Ball advised that recently the Louisville Courier-Journal ran an article "smearing" the society. He said that last Sunday the newspaper, over its radio station in Louisville, WHAS, continued what appears to be a definite attack on the society by presenting a radio program entitled, "Moral Side of the News." Guests on this program were four ministers of the Louisville area who attacked the society stating that it was a fascist organization and could be compared with the Hitler movement.

Mr. Palmer - Ball further stated that he feels the society itself could withstand such a smear attack, but he is anxious to launch a counter offense on behalf of the society in order to protect the individuals working for the society in Louisville. In connection with his counterattack, Mr. Palmer - Ball stated he planned on using the facilities of the weekly newspaper, "Voice of Saint Matthews," published in Saint Matthews, Kentucky, with a circulation of about 6,000.

Mr. Palmer - Ball requested that the Director, if possible, send him a letter setting forth his knowledge of the John Birch Society and its aims. He added that if the Director could not furnish him such a letter, he would appreciate any suggestions the FBI might make as to how such a smear attack could be fought.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/81 BY Spmacpra

REC- 61 62-104401-

EX 109

13 MAR 7 1961

1 - Mr. Belmont
TFM:cjb
(3)

CRIME RESEARCH

57 MAR 10 1961

Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: Mr. Shirley Palmer - Ball

There is no record in Bureau files identifiable with this individual. The John Birch Society has been the subject of numerous inquiries received at the Bureau. Founded by Mr. Robert Welch, of Belmont, Mass., it is allegedly an anti-communist organization, but Welch has stated that it might take on the appearance of the "front" in order to attract true subversives. Welch has been openly critical of former President Eisenhower, and in his book, "The Politician" in a vicious attack on Eisenhower, he accused the President of being a dupe of the communists.

Mr. Palmer - Ball was advised that the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication, or individual. The Director, therefore, would be unable to help but that no inference should be drawn from this fact either that we do or do not have data in our files regarding this society.

Domestic Intelligence Division advised that early in February on the Director's instructions a limited inquiry was initiated into the John Birch Society. Boston has been instructed to obtain from established sources information concerning the corporation, its officials, and sources of income.

With regard to the Louisville Courier-Journal our relations with this paper have been very spotty with both favorable and unfavorable editorials. In December, 1958, they were extremely critical of the Director's response to unfavorable criticism. At that time they ran a scandalous cartoon with the caption, "Thou shalt not criticize the FBI."

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

REC-76 62-114421-1

117

March 3, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
Bill's Auto Sales
Post Office Box 548
Powell, Wyoming

b6
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 BY SP1 [illegible]

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter of February 22, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 20
MAR 3 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (6)
(Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

RWE:lcl* (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 MAR 10 1961

b6
b7C

Letter to Mr. [redacted]

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

TRUE COPY

Rambler

Bill's Auto Sales
P. O. Box 548
Powell, Wyoming

February 22, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, Cheif
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Would it be possible to send me information on the John Birch Society, Inc. headed by Robert Welch of Belmont, Mass.

I have been approached to join this organization, from all outward appearances it has the makings of a loyal american trying to do a job, that cannot be posponed if we are to preserve our American heritage.

On the other hand I have read so much of people being duped by communist front organizations and I don't want to be a part of that statistic.

An early reply would be greatly appreciated.

b6
b7C

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]

62-104401-721

True copy 3/3/61 ec

REC- 76

MAR 1 1961

ack: 3/3/61 RWE: ec

EX-112

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/86 BY SP1 MACMXW

Rambler

2. **Bill's Auto Sales**

3. P. O. Box 548

4. POWELL, WYOMING

February 22, 1961

J. Edgar Hoover, Chief
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Would it be possible to send me information on the John Birch Society, Inc. headed by Robert Welch of Belmont, Mass.

I have been approached to join this organization, from all outward appearances it has the makings of a loyal american trying to do a job, that cannot be posponed if we are to preserve our American heritage.

On the other hand I have read so much of people being duped by communist front organizations and I dont want to be a part of that statistic.

An early reply would be greatly appreciated.

b6
b7C

Sincerely,

1. Mr. [redacted]

CONFIDENCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/27/96 BY SP1 MCCMEE

62-104401-732

March 6, 1961

Mr. [redacted]
[redacted]
Houston, Texas

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Your letter postmarked February 24, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

MAILED 20
MAR 6 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

Enclosures (6)
(Listed next page)

see NOTE next page

SAW:lcl* (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

62 MAR 10 1961

Letter to Mr. [redacted] b6 b7C

Enclosures
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

NOTE: The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.

[redacted]

b6
b7C

Houston, Texas

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

2-1

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It is a known fact that we are living in an age of deceit. This causes one who is interested in good government to be most cautious in lending his support to various groups which promote good government.

As most communist front groups are operating under the guise of humane and patriotic societies, I am compelled to consult you and your wealth of information about one group in particular. This group is known as the John Birch Society, having it's headquaters in Belmont, Massachusetts. I am convinced this is one of the most devout anti-communist groups in operation today. It's principle leader seems to have more information on communist activities at his disposal than our entire congress. I would say it has it's roots in the constitution of the United States as set forth in 1787 as opposed to the watered down version of the present time.

I would greatly appreciate any comments you will make and information you may give me concerning this, John Birch Society, group and it's activities.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

REC-76 62-104401-72

Sincerely yours for good government,

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Clerk: 3/6/61

CORRESPONDENCE

MAR 7 1961

HCK:nk

3/27/86

62-104-51-72

March 6, 1961

Mr. Henry Lebak
Alexander, North Dakota

Dear Mr. Lebak:

Your letter was received on February 27, 1961, and your interest in writing is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not furnish evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that our files do or do not contain data relative to the group you mentioned.

This Bureau does not issue a list such as you described. You can obtain a list of organizations which have been cited by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450 by writing to the Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C. You may also be interested in a booklet entitled "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications." Although this booklet is currently out of print, you may be able to secure a copy from your local library.

MAILED 27
MAR - 6 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The John Birch Society, an anticommunist group, has not been investigated by the Bureau, but we are watching its activities since its founder, Robert Welch, indicated it might be used to attract true subversives.

SAW:jka
(3)

62 MAR 10 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

TRUE COPY

Alexander, N. Dak.
Feb. 21, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

The people in this area are in the process of organizing into "John Birch Society" chapters and I am making preparations to start one in Alexander, N. Dak. I want to do all I can to help combat communism, but want to be on the right track. Would you kindly inform me as to your opinion on this group. It looks all right to me, but would hate to be wrong on it.

Is it possible to acquire any list of people and organizations listed as communist. Would like any available information that would be a help in the battle. Also it might be well to find out the proper procedure in handling such lists.

Sincerely

Henry Lebak

EX 100

REC- 76 62-104401-723

MAR 8 1961

8-Dem SAW

mnl
ack. 3-6-61
SAW: jha

3/27/66 Spmacpm17

tc 3/3/61

Alexander, N. Dak.
Feb. 21, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

The people in this area are in the process of organizing into "John Birch Society" chapters and I am making preparations to start one in Alexander, N. Dak. I want to do all I can to help combat communism, but want to be on the right track. Would you kindly inform me as to your opinion on this group. It looks all right to me, but would hate to be wrong on it.

Is it possible to acquire any list of people and organizations listed as communist. Would like any available information that would be a help in the battle. Also it might be swell to find out the proper procedure in handling such lists.

3/27/61 Spmacmxs

Sincerely
Henry Lebak Jr

mmd
ack. 3-6-61
Saw: jsa

CORRESPONDENCE

EC-68 (62)-104701-724

March 7, 1961

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Nashville 12, Tennessee

b6
b7C

3/27/86 Spmacmtg

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Your letter of February 26, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope that you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature dealing with the general subject of communism which may be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 20
MAR 7 - 1961
COMM-FBI

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
17th National Convention, CPUSA & 3-60 LEB Introduction
Communist Party, USA
One Nation's Response to Communism
Director's Speech of 10-18-60
The Communists Are After Our Minds
Expose of Soviet Espionage

63 MAR 10 1961

SAW:lcl* (3)

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM
TELETYPE UNIT

Letter to Mrs. [redacted]

b6
b7C

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles.
The John Birch Society is allegedly an anticommunist organization; however, Robert Welch, its founder, has stated that the Society might take on the appearance of a "front" in order to attract true subversives. During the Eisenhower Administration, Welch criticized the President to the point of calling him a dupe of the communists.

TRUE COPY

[redacted]
Nashville 12, Tennessee
February 26, 1961.

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: John Birch Society

b6
b7C

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am interested in joining the John Birch Society, and I would like to know your opinion of this organization before I make my final decision. Although I feel that this organization stands for the true democratic ideals, your opinion is still desired and would be most helpful.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mrs. [redacted]

1 true copy
3/6/61 lcl

Cp

Ack: 3/7/61
SAW:lcl

REC-68

62-104401-724

8-Dam 15 SW

mml

10 MAR 8 1961

FX-117

3/27/86 Spinacenia

[redacted]

Nashville [redacted], Tennessee
February 26, 1961.

b6
b7C

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: John Birch Society

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am interested in joining the John Birch Society, and I would like to know your opinion of this organization before I make my final decision. Although I feel that this organization stands for the true democratic ideals, your opinion is still desired and would be most helpful.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Mrs [redacted]

nmd
ack 3-7-61
SPW

b6
b7C

CORRESPONDENCE
SPW

nmd

31 JAN 1980

4 CO-104401 — 125

March 7, 1961

REC- 68

EX-109

Miss [redacted]

[redacted]

Big Spring, Texas

Dear Miss [redacted]

Your letter dated February 27, 1961, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the functions and responsibilities of the FBI as strictly a fact-gathering agency do not extend to furnishing evaluations or drawing conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to comment concerning the group you named and hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or that we do not have related data in our files.

For the above reasons we have not, consequently, compiled a list such as you described. If you would like to have a copy of the list of groups which have been designated by the Attorney General as coming within the scope of Executive Order 10450, your request should be submitted to the Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, Department of Justice, Washington 25, D. C.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities has also released a "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications." The Government Printing Office advises that it is currently out of print, but you may be able to secure a copy of it in your local public library. Enclosed is other material on the subject of communism.

MAILED 25
MAR 7 - 1961
COMM-FBI

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAR 10 1961

Enclosures (7) (Listed on next page)

DCL:mb (3)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FBI READING ROOM

10 PM '61

Letter to Miss [redacted] b6 b7c 3-7-61

Enclosures (7)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Communism: The Bitter Enemy of Religion
How To Beat Communism
Press Release 12-22-60
Director's Speech 10-18-60
Expose of Soviet Espionage
Communist Target--Youth

TRUE COPY

[redacted]
Big Spring, Texas
February 27, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

b6
b7C

I have been approached by some member of the John Birch Society to join their organization.

Is this society clear of subversive or communist taint?

If you have a list of organizations considered infiltrated by communists or a list of acceptible organizations, by the F. B. I. standards, please forward a copy to me.

Respectfully,

/s/ [redacted]

62-104401-725

2 MAR 8 1961

REC-68

EX 102

mml
ack 3-7-61
ltr 3-6-61
del/mb

3/27/61 Springfield

[redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted]

Big Spring, Texas
February 27, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C

Dear Sir,

I have been approached by some members of the John Birch Society to join their organization.

Is this society clear of subversive or communist militant?

If you have a list of organizations considered

wk 3-7-61
tu 3-

CORRESPONDENCE

infiltrated by communists or a list of acceptible organizations, by the F.B.I. standards, please forward a copy to me.

Respectfully,

b6
b7C